RAWR
...
Why won't you release the next chapter?!
W...
Can I help you?

What can I do to help?
B-b-but! I don't know how to edit or translate .....
Fan Girl
I

It's not like YOU helped out any.
We don't have enough translators or editors.
Stop yelling already.
!!!
...

Visit our website for details.
Find us some translators and editors and you'll have your next chapter.
http://www.aerandria.net

AERANDRIA

THE RABID SOULS BEHIND YOUR FAVORITE RELEASES!

Ugetsu Monogatari

Lacaille :SCANNER
Mari :TRANSLATORS
Silje :PROOFREADER
Samantha & Aaron :EDITORS
caelum-infinitum :QUALITY CHECK

if you are the type who loves to learn traditional Japanese culture through manga, this is the correct choice for you.

— *caelum-infinitum*

http://aerandria.net irc://irchighway.net/#aerandria

A PASSION THAT HAS TRANSCENDED AND OUTLIVED ITS ERA IS WHAT PEOPLE CALL "A DEMON"——

雨月物語

ugetsu monogatari

ひわときこ

原作／上田秋成

TALES OF MOONLIGHT AND RAIN

CONTENT

"Kibitsu no Kama" (The Cauldron of Kibitsu) -
The story of a woman who becomes an angry ghost after her husband betrays her...007

"Aozukin" (The Blue Hood) -
The story of a monk who turns into a demon because of love...067

"Jasei no In" (The Lust of the White Serpent) -
The story of a beautiful snake who keeps following the man she loves...127

What is "Ugetsu Monogatari"?

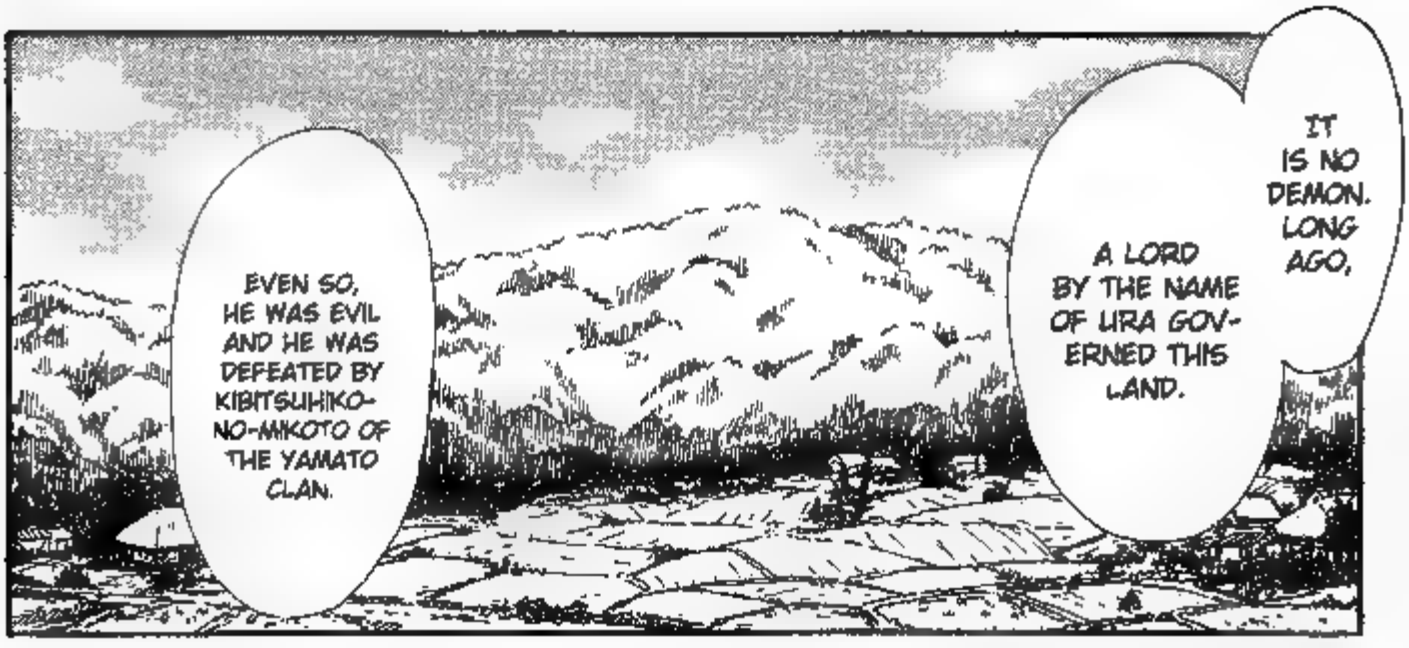
"Ugetsu Monogatari" is a a collection of nine independent stories dealing with the world of the supernatural, written by Ueda Akinari in the Edo period (1603-1868). The titles of the six stories which are not included in this manga are "Shiramine" (White Peak), "Kikka no chigiri" (The Chrysanthemum Pledge), "Asaji ga yado" (House Amid the Thickets), "Muo no Rigyo" (A Carp that Appeared in My Dream), "Bupposo" (Bird of Paradise) and "Hinpukuron" (Theory of Wealth and Poverty).

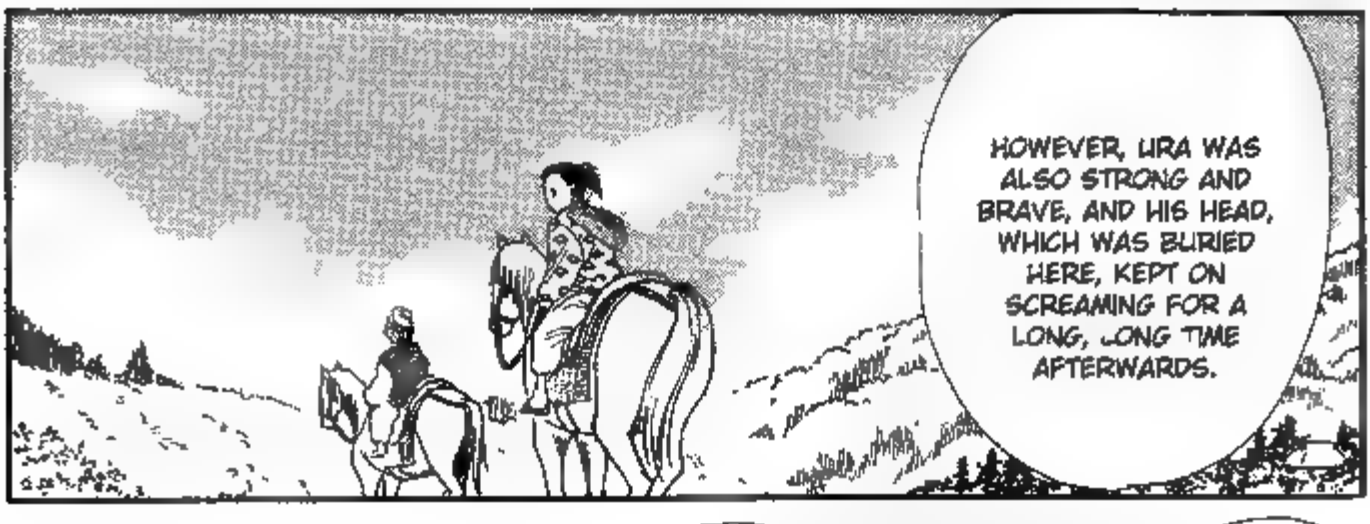
YOU, WHO WISH TO KNOW OF THE FORTUNE AND MISFORTUNE, OF GOOD AND EVIL, THAT AWAITS IN THE UNFORESEEABLE FUTURE,
CLEAR YOUR HEART AND LISTEN...
...TO THIS VOICE.
WOOO

KIBITSU NO KAMA

WHAT IS THAT SOUND? ...?
WOW...I HAVE HEARD THE RUMORS ABOUT IT,
BUT IT DOES SOUND AS THOUGH ONE WERE WRINGING THE NECK OF SOME DEMON BURRIED BELOW OKAMA-DEN, THE MAIN TEMPLE.
THAT IS THE KAMANARI OF KIBITSU-JINJA*.
DID IT STARTLE YOU, SHOTARO?

*KAMANARI IS A DIVINATION RITUAL PARTICULAR TO THE KIBUTSU SHRINE A LARGE RICE CAULDRON OF IRON IS HEATED OVER A CLAY HEARTH WITH BURNING PINE NEEDLES AND WHEN THE WATER BOILS, THE LOUDNESS OF THE RUMBLING CAULDRON IS TAKEN TO INDICATE GOOD OR BAD FORTUNE


IT IS NO DEMON. LONG AGO,
A LORD BY THE NAME OF URA GOVERNED THIS LAND.
EVEN SO, HE WAS EVIL AND HE WAS DEFEATED BY KIBITSUHIKO-NO-MIKOTO OF THE YAMATO CLAN.


HOWEVER, URA WAS ALSO STRONG AND BRAVE, AND HIS HEAD, WHICH WAS BURIED HERE, KEPT ON SCREAMING FOR A LONG, LONG TIME AFTERWARDS.

EVER SINCE THEN, URA BECAME A GUARDIAN DEITY OF THE PLACE AND STARTED ANNOUNCING THE FULFILLMENT OF PEOPLE'S PRAYERS BY MEANS OF THE SOUND OF THE BOILING CAULDRON.
I SEE. AND NOW IT IS USED FOR DIVINING GOOD OR BAD FORTUNE.

HE ALSO SAID, "AND GIVE THE DUTY OF FILLING THE CAULDRON WITH RICE TO MY WIFE, ASO-HIME."
HE SAID, "BUILD A CLAY HEARTH AND PUT AN IRON CAULDRON OVER THE PLACE WHERE MY HEAD IS BURIED AND PREPARE SHINSEN* IN IT."
ONE NIGHT, AN APPARITION OF URA APPEARED BEFORE KIBITSUHIKO-NO-MIKOTO.

*SHINSEN: FOOD OFFERINGS TO THE GODS OR SACRED POWER

IT IS SAID THAT WHEN THE SOUND IS LOUD AND CLEAR, THAT MEANS FORTUNE.
WHEN THERE IS NO SOUND, IT MEANS MISFORTUNE, BUT.. WHETHER THIS WILL COME TRUE REALLY DEPENDS ON THE HEARTS OF THOSE WHO HEAR IT
HMM...
ISORA-SAMA,
LOOK AT HOW MANY SPRING VEGETABLES WE PICKED.
IS THAT SO? SHOW ME...

HEY, SHOTARO, WHERE ARE YOU GOING?!
WE SHALL BE LATE FOR OUR VISIT TO YOUR AILING GRAND-UNCLE!
HUH?
WHAT?
PRICK
Stomp
Stomp
Stomp
Pull
EEK!

WOW, YOU ARE SO BEAU-TIFUL...
YOU... YOU RUDE MAN!
DO YOU NOT KNOW THAT SHE IS THE DAUGHTER OF KASADA MIKI, THE CHIEF PRIEST OF KIBITSU, YOU RUFFIAN?!
I DID NOT KNOW.
I WAS SIMPLY IMPRESSED BY HER BEAUTY THAT IT MADE ME COME CLOSER.
SORRY TO HAVE STARTLED YOU.
ARE YOU NOT FROM AROUND HERE?
WHAT IS YOUR NAME?
PLEASE FORGIVE HIM!

*NOTE: THE VICINITY OF PRESENT-DAY OKAYAMA CITY
SHO-TA-RO
THIS IS MY SON, SHOTARO
I AM IZAWA SHODAYU FROM NIISE, IN THE KAYANO AREA*
Kya-ha-ha-ha!
Wa-ha-ha-ha!

*NOTE. UNMARRIED NOBLEWOMEN WOULD HIDE THEIR FACES FROM MEN WITH THE LONG SLEEVES OF THEIR KIMONO

KIBITSU NO KAMA

I WAS NOT. I SIMPLY EVALUATED HER.
YOU CAN NEVER TELL WHAT A WOMAN IS REALLY LIKE UNLESS YOU PULL HER SLEEVE AND SEE.*
I HEARD YOU WERE ILL-MANERED TOWARD A REAL LADY!
HEY, SHO-TARO!
EEK!
IT WAS LIKE WATCHING A PURE AND CHASTE HEAVENLY NYMPH.
WOW
HER SKIN WAS AS WHITE AS SNOW OR MOCHI* AND HER HAIR WAS PERFECT BLACK.
I THINK SHE WAS AROUND 17 YEARS OLD.
SO, HOW WAS SHE?

*NOTE. SWEET AND STICKY RICE CAKE.

SHO-SAN, YOU KEEP COMING HERE ALL THE TIME.
DO WE NO LONGER SUFFICE FOR YOU?
IF I COULD MARRY A WOMAN LIKE THAT, EVERY DAY WOULD FEEL LIKE A WALK IN HEAVEN.
Ha ha ha ha ha!
I STILL HAVE NOT HAD NEARLY ENOUGH OF YOU.
NOT NEARLY ENOUGH.

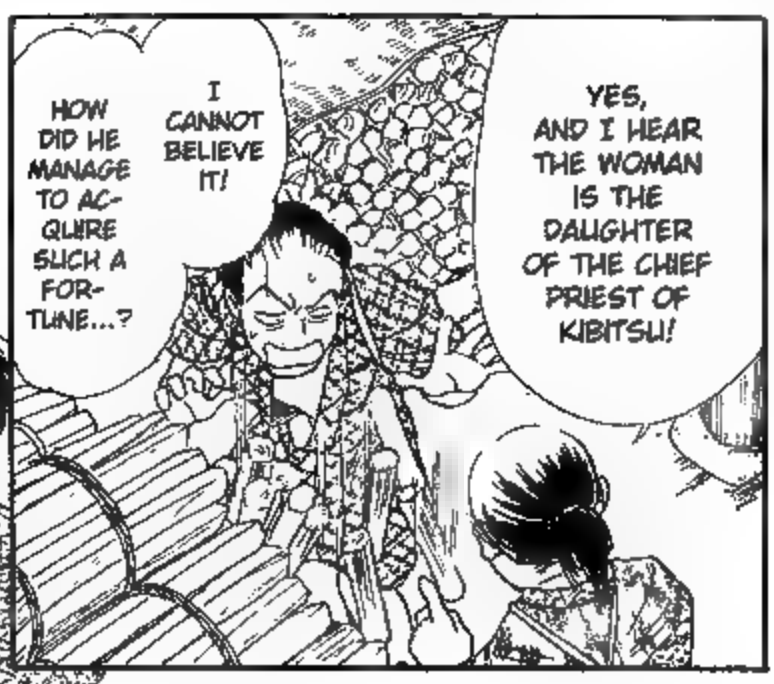
WHAT?

WE DID IT, SON!

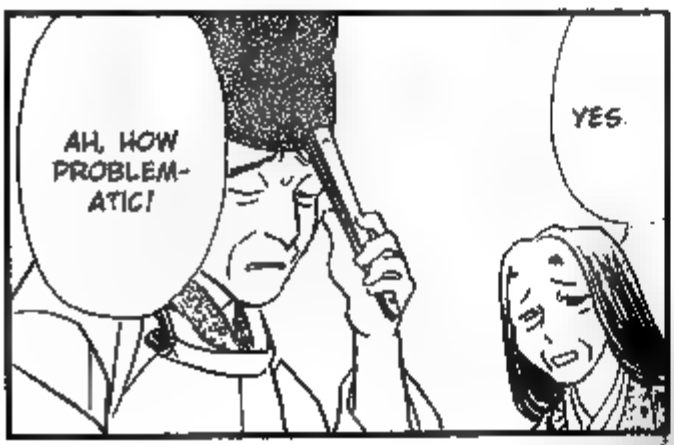
SHOTARO-SAMA IS ENGAGED?

RUMORS HAVE IT THAT SHOTARO-SAMA MANAGED TO LAY HIS HANDS ON THE GIRL, SOMEHOW.

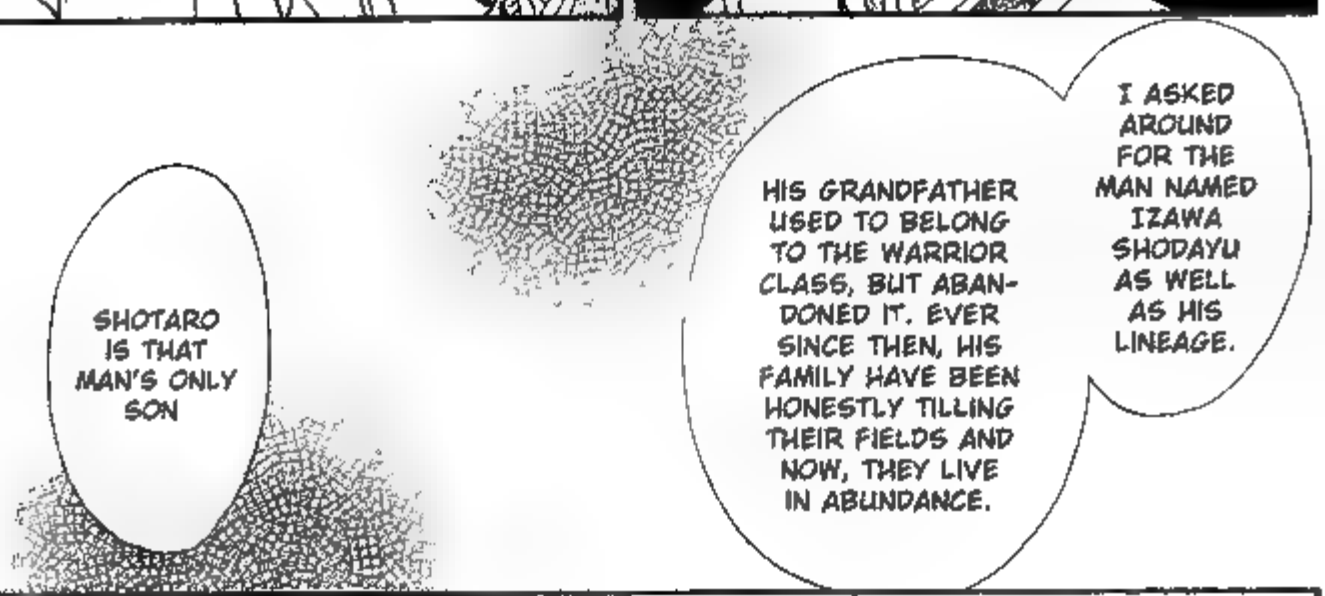
OH... I CAN BELIEVE THAT.

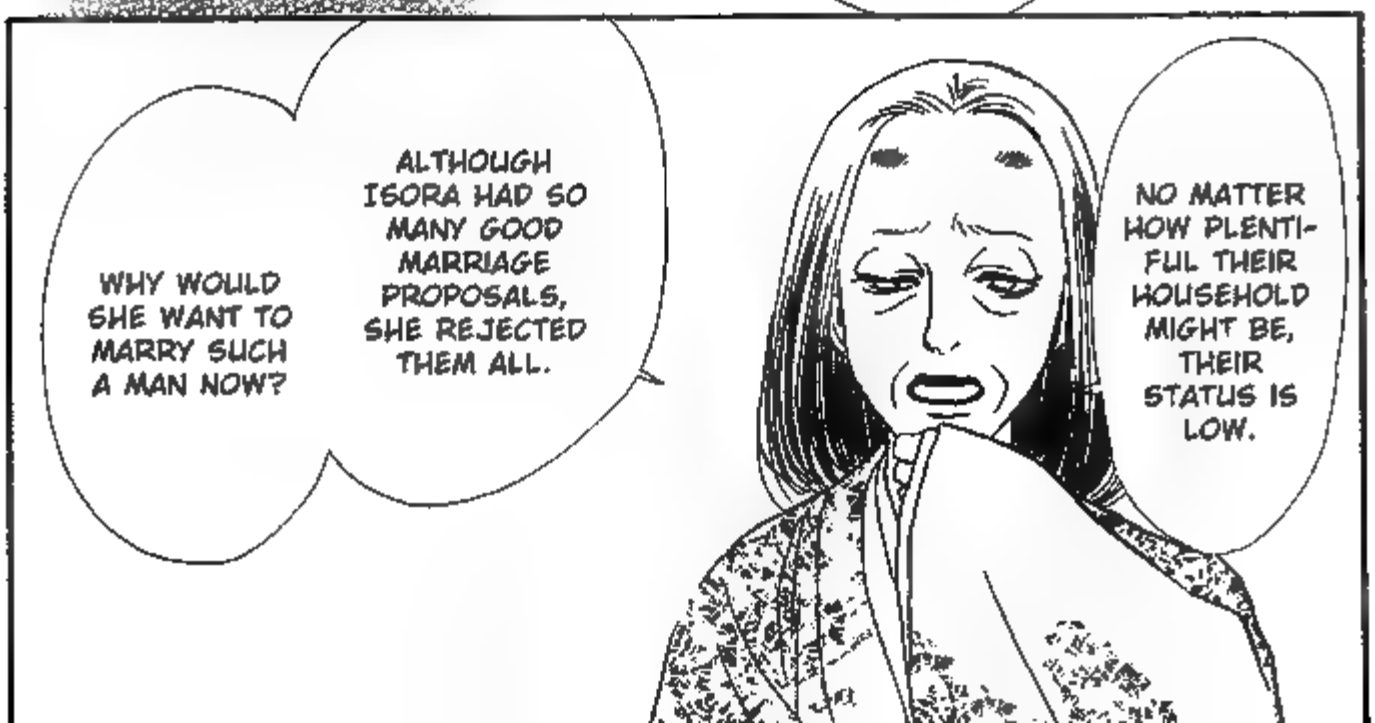

I CANNOT BELIEVE IT!
HOW DID HE MANAGE TO ACQUIRE SUCH A FORTUNE...?
YES, AND I HEAR THE WOMAN IS THE DAUGHTER OF THE CHIEF PRIEST OF KIBITSU!

ANYWAY, EVER SINCE THEIR ENCOUNTER, THE LADY HAS BEEN DOING NOTHING BUT SPACE OUT AND SIGH
IT IS WHAT THEY CALL "LOVE-SICKNESS."


AH, HOW PROBLEMATIC!
YES.

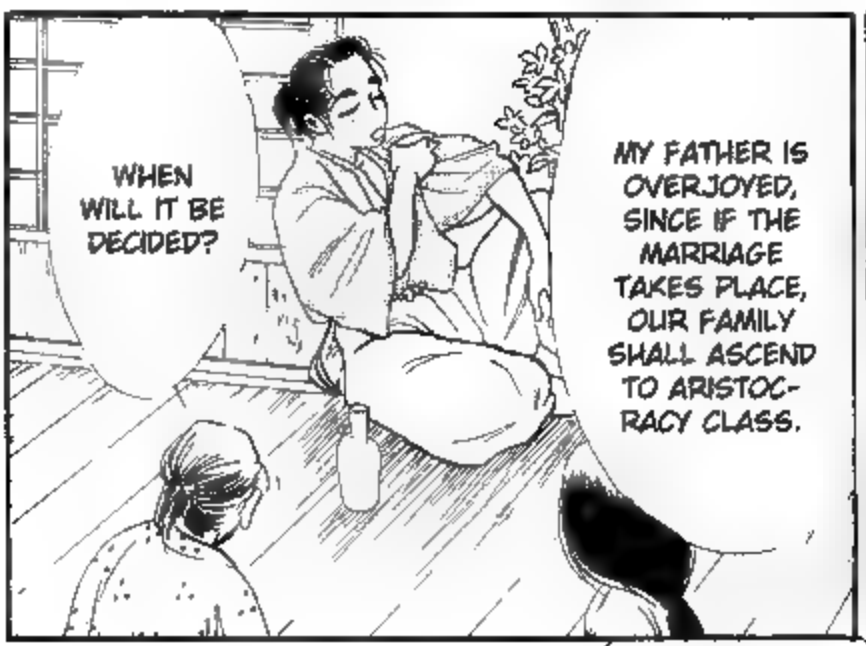
ISORA STILL REFUSES TO EAT ANYTHING?


I ASKED AROUND FOR THE MAN NAMED IZAWA SHODAYU AS WELL AS HIS LINEAGE.
HIS GRANDFATHER USED TO BELONG TO THE WARRIOR CLASS, BUT ABANDONED IT. EVER SINCE THEN, HIS FAMILY HAVE BEEN HONESTLY TILLING THEIR FIELDS AND NOW, THEY LIVE IN ABUNDANCE.
SHOTARO IS THAT MAN'S ONLY SON


NO MATTER HOW PLENTIFUL THEIR HOUSEHOLD MIGHT BE, THEIR STATUS IS LOW.
ALTHOUGH ISORA HAD SO MANY GOOD MARRIAGE PROPOSALS, SHE REJECTED THEM ALL.
WHY WOULD SHE WANT TO MARRY SUCH A MAN NOW?

WELL...TO BE HONEST, HE SEEMED TO BE A BRIGHT AND ATTRACTIVE YOUNG MASTER,
BUT SOMEWHAT...I MEAN, QUITE IMPOLITE AND BRUTISH.
SAY, WHAT DID YOU THINK OF THAT MAN?
EVEN THOUGH THEY HAD NEVER EVEN MET ME.
ALL MY OTHER SUITORS HITHERTO SPOKE HIGHLY OF MY WIT AND BEAUTY IN THE POEMS THAT THEY SENT ME
HE SAID THAT I WAS BEAUTIFUL AFTER HE SAW ME...
HE CAME STRAIGHT TO ME WITHOUT EVEN THE SLIGHTEST HESITATION.
BUT HE WAS DIF-FERENT.

SHOTARO-SAMA IS THE MAN I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN WAITING FOR.


WHEN WILL IT BE DECIDED?
MY FATHER IS OVERJOYED, SINCE IF THE MARRIAGE TAKES PLACE, OUR FAMILY SHALL ASCEND TO ARISTOC-RACY CLASS.

WHAT?!
SO, THINGS HAVE PROG-RESSED THIS FAR?

ALTHOUGH I GUESS THE ANSWER IS CLEAR, THE CHIEF PRIEST BEING ONE OF THE FAMILY.
IT SEEMS THAT THE OTHER FAMILY INTENDS TO CONSULT THE DIVINATION OF THE CAULDRON AT THE SHRINE REGARDING THIS MATTER...

WHO WOULD LET SUCH A LADY MARRY A MAN LIKE YOU?
THEN JUST GIVE IT UP!
HA-HA-HA!

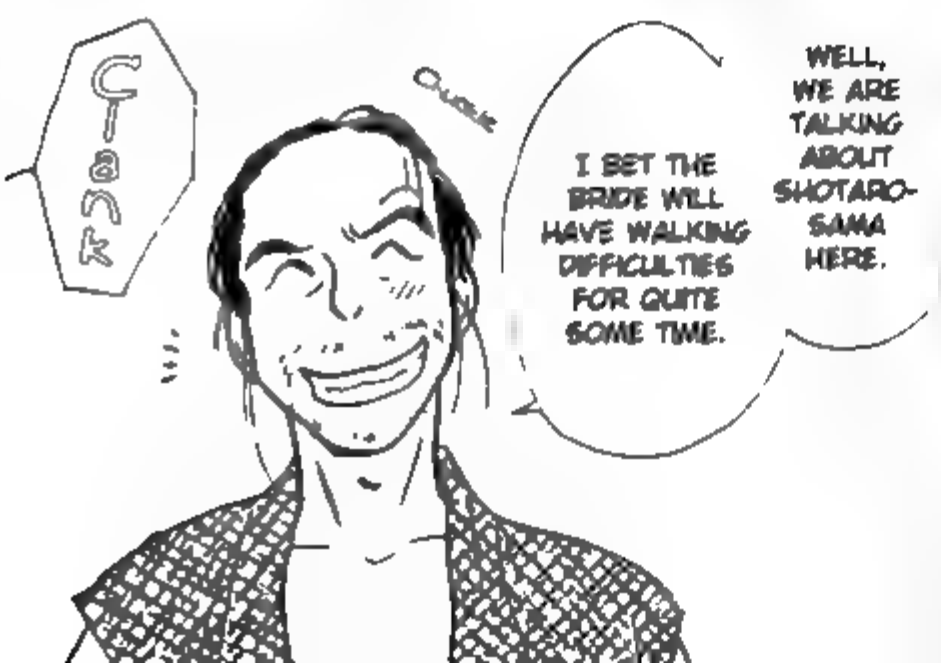
COUNT US IN, TOO!
I PUT MY MONEY ON SHOTARO NOT GETTING MARRIED!
HAH, A BET!
WHAT DID YOU SAY?! DARE YOU BET?

Thunk

AH, A PRO-CESSION!
IT IS A BRIDAL PROCES-SION!

WHERE ARE THEY GOING?
I HEARD SHE WAS GOING TO BE MARRIED TO IZAWA SHODAYU'S SON.
WHAT? THAT FOOL OF A BOY!
WELL, EVEN A FOOLISH BOY LIKE HIM MIGHT START WORKING SERIOUSLY ONCE HE HAS A BRIDE.
AH, WELCOME, WELCOME!
THE CAULDRON WHISTLED LOUD AND CLEAR.
OH, SO IT WHISTLED

KIBITSU NO KAMA



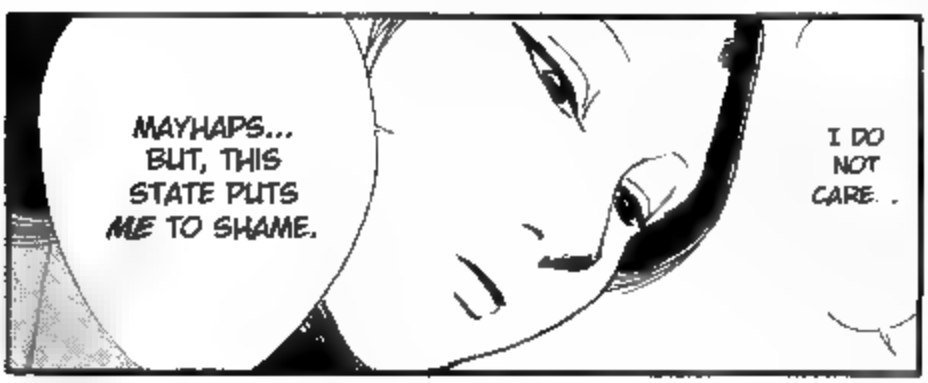
HUH?
ISORA-SAMA?!
WHY ARE YOU HERE SO EARLY IN THE MORNING?
I CAME FOR SOME FIREWOOD.
I THOUGHT I SHOULD TAKE CARE OF OUR MASTER'S
SHOTARO-SAMA'S MORNING PREPARA-TIONS.
WHAT! BUT SUCH MATTER IS OUR DUTY...
IT IS ALL RIGHT.
I SHALL TAKE CARE OF SHOTARO-SAMA FROM NOW ON.
NOBODY ELSE MUST MEDDLE IN THIS.
RIGHT...
WHAT?! ISORA IS HOEING?!

MOTHER-IN-LAW,
SHALL I RUB YOUR BACK AND LEGS?
AND THAT IS NOT ALL.
SHE CAN CLEAN FISH AND PLUCK CHICKENS, TOO.
AH, IMPRESSIVE!
SHE WAKES UP EARLIER THAN ANYONE ELSE AND IN THE EVENING,
SHE OCCUPIES HERSELF WITH SEWING AND WEAVING LONG AFTER EVERYONE IS ASLEEP.
WHAT A DUTIFUL WIFE!
SHOTARO-SAMA, YOUR BREAKFAST.
AH...
HM..?
WHAT IS THIS? IT LOOKS LIKE A BEGGAR'S RAGS.
ARE YOU TRYING TO PUT ME INTO SHAME BY DONNING SUCH A GARB?

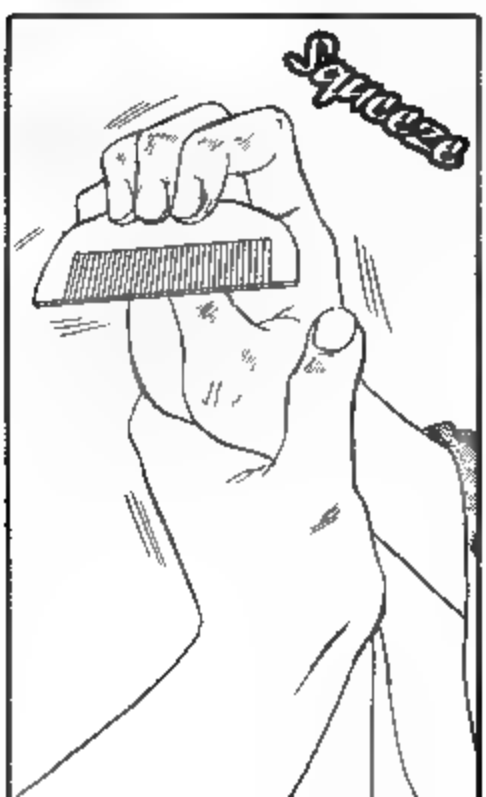
SHO-TARO-SAMA,
PLEASE HURRY UP.
ISORA MANAGED TO MAKE SHO-TARO WORK IN THE FIELDS?
I AM CERTAIN NOW SHOTARO WILL CORRECT HIMSELF, TOO!
IT IS ALL THANKS TO ISORA... I AM CERTAIN THE GODS OF KIBITSU ARE WATCHING OVER HER.
AH, HOW FORTUNATE WE ARE TO HAVE HER!
YES... RELUCTANTLY, BUT HE IS WORKING.
AMAZING!

AH, A FRIEND ASKED ME TO DO HIM A FAVOR.
RIGHT NOW, WHEN WE ARE SO PRE-OCCUPIED IN THE FIELD..?
SHO-TARO-SAMA, WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
YOU SAID SO LAST TIME BUT RETURNED IN THE SMALL HOURS.
I SHALL RETURN BEFORE SUNSET.
DRINK, WOMEN AND HORSE-BETTING.
YEAH, IT IS SHOTARO-SAMA'S INCURABLE ILLNESSES.
I THOUGHT IT WOULD HAPPEN ANYTIME NOW
NO, I WOULD NOT ALLEGE SUCH A THING.
ISORA...DO YOU NOT TRUST ME ANYMORE?

VERY SOON, ISORA-SAMA WILL REALIZE IT, TOO...
I WONDER WHAT WILL HAPPEN THEN.
TULC


MAYHAPS... BUT, THIS STATE PUTS *ME* TO SHAME.
I DO NOT CARE.

HN...? WHAT IS IT?


Squeeze

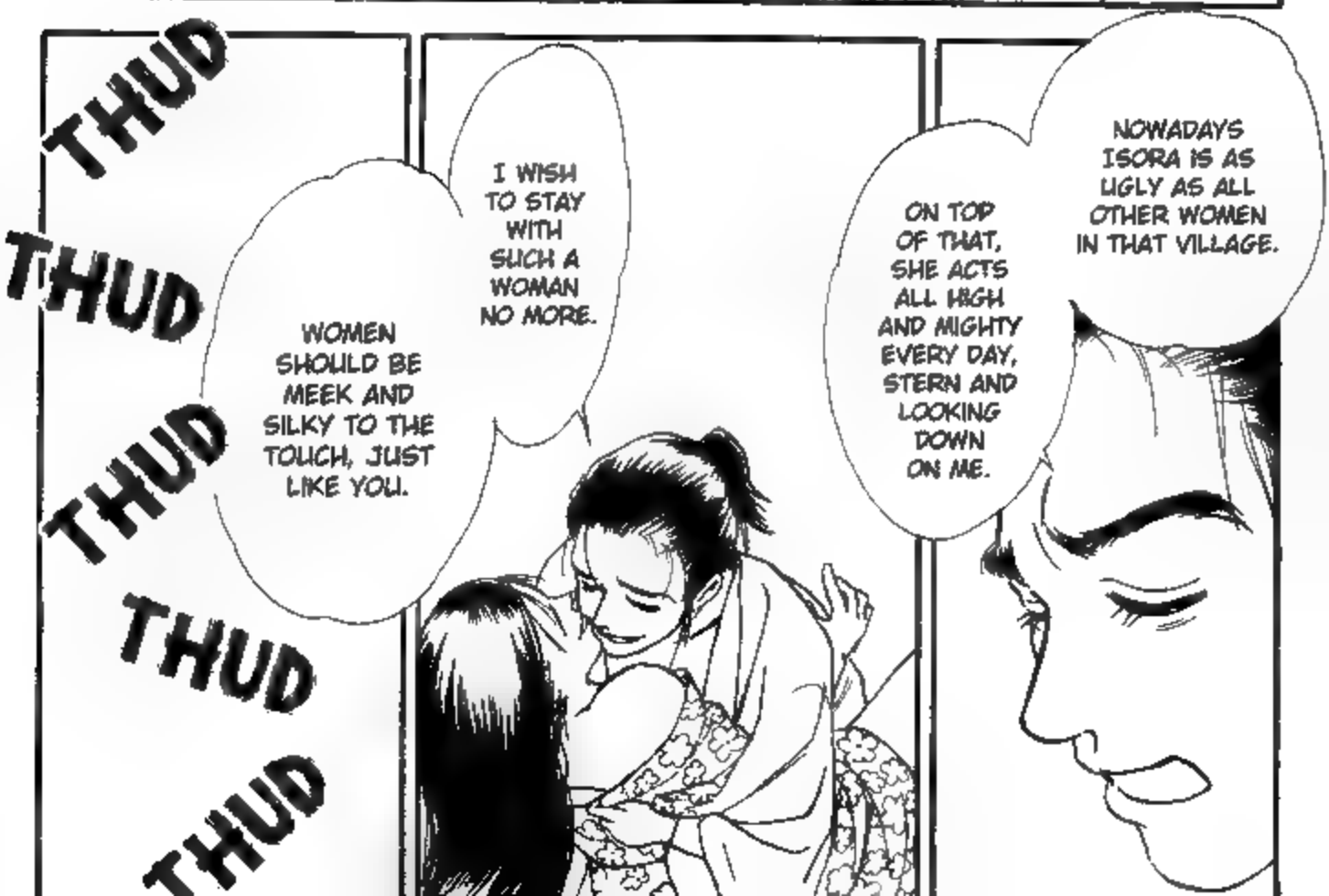
YOUR HAIR WAS IN DISARRAY. HENCE, I THOUGHT .

I REGRET NOTHING.
I DO NOT REGRET IT,
AS LONG AS I CAN MAKE A GOOD WIFE TO YOU.
THE HANDS THAT USED TO BE SO SMOOTH HAVE BECOME ROUGH LATELY...
IF YOU REMAINED IN THE KASADA HOUSEHOLD, YOU WOULD BE PLAYING THE KOTO* NOW.
*NOTE: A TRADITIONAL JAPANESE STRINGED MUSICAL INSTRUMENT

IS IT NOT THE HIGH TIME YOU RETURN HOME?
SHO-SAN, YOU HAVE LINGERED HERE FOR THREE MONTHS.
SO...

I HAVE NOT SAID THAT!
ARE YOU TRYING TO CAST ME AWAY NOW?
YOU SAID YOU WOULD TAKE CARE OF ME.
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, O-SODE? THIS IS MY HOME, TOO!

HMPF.
BUT WHAT ABOUT THE "HEAVENLY NYMPH" YOU HAVE AT HOME?
I AM HAPPY TO BE WITH YOU, SHO-SAN.

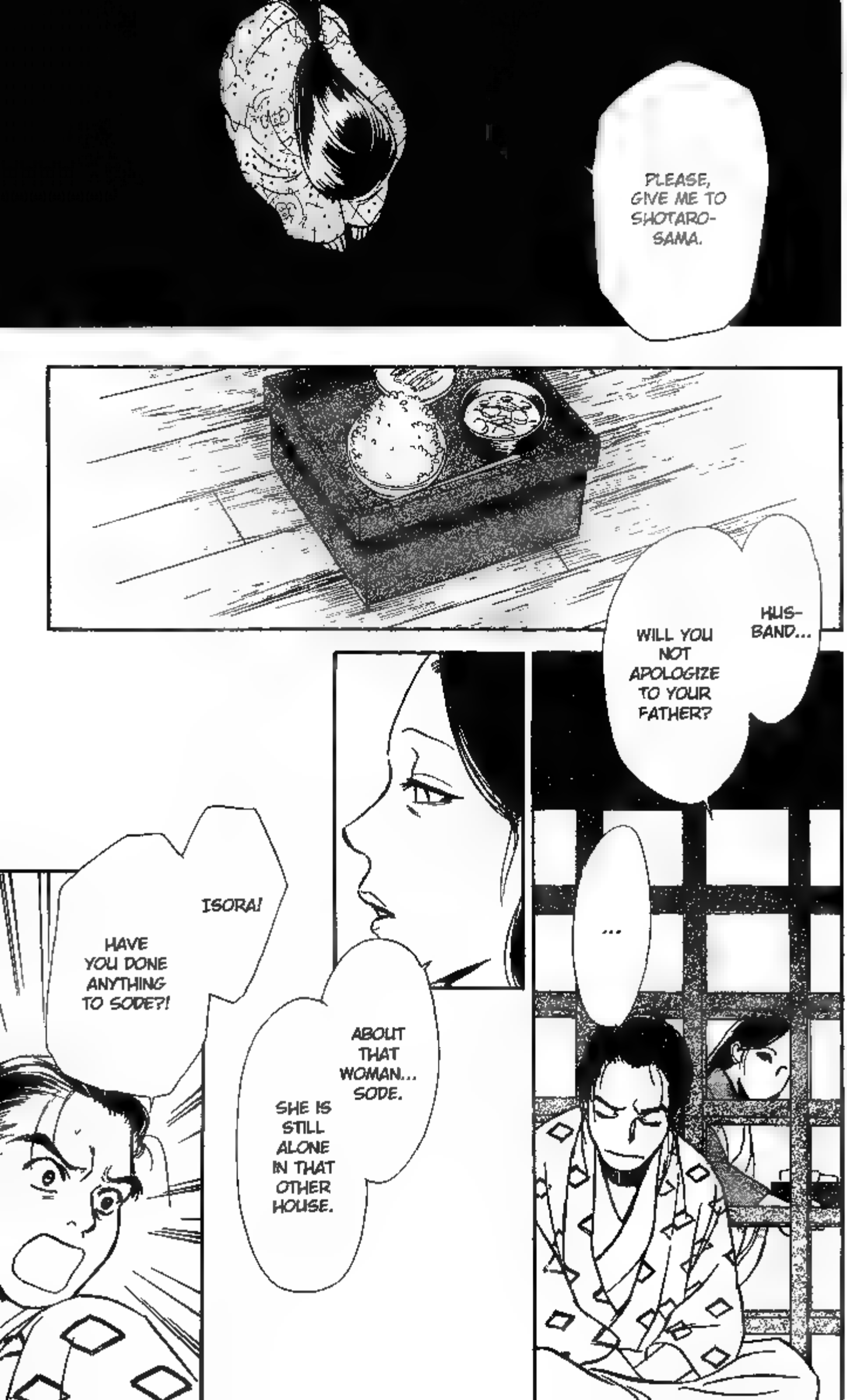

THUD
THUD
THUD
THUD
THUD
WOMEN SHOULD BE MEEK AND SILKY TO THE TOUCH, JUST LIKE YOU.
I WISH TO STAY WITH SUCH A WOMAN NO MORE.
ON TOP OF THAT, SHE ACTS ALL HIGH AND MIGHTY EVERY DAY, STERN AND LOOKING DOWN ON ME.
NOWADAYS ISORA IS AS UGLY AS ALL OTHER WOMEN IN THAT VILLAGE.

BAM
SHOTARO! SO THIS IS WHERE YOU HAVE BEEN!
WHOA! FA- THER.
WHY ARE YOU
EEK!
WHAT THE HELL!
HAVE YOU LOST YOUR MIND? HOW COULD YOU LOCK ME HERE?!
SILENCE! YOU BIG, INCURABLE FOOL!
KLIK

HAVE YOU ANY IDEA HOW MUCH ISORA HAS SUFFERED
WHILE YOU WERE PLAYING WITH A WOMAN IN SOMEONE ELSE'S HOUSE!
PLEASE, STOP, DEAR FATHER-IN-LAW
ISO-RA
DEAR FATHER-IN-LAW, PLEASE, DO NOT BLAME SHOTARO-SAMA.
WELCOME BACK, MY HUSBAND.
I AM SURE ALL THIS HAPPENED BECAUSE THE OTHER WOMAN SOMEHOW DE-CEIVED HIM TO GO TO HER.
SHO-TARO-SAMA IS NOT TO BE BLAMED.
SO, PLEASE FORGIVE HIM...

HOW CAN SHE BEAR ALL THIS?
SHE DILIGENTLY TOOK CARE OF SHOTARO-SAMA UNTIL HIS FATHER'S ANGER FINALLY STARTED TO SUBSIDE.
HOW LAUDABLE OF ISORA-SAMA!
SUCH A GOOD UPBRINGING.
THE CAULDRON MADE NO SOUND?
YES. IT WAS SO QUIET THAT YOU COULD EVEN HEAR THE FLIES BUZZ.
WHAT AN ILL OMEN! THIS MEANS SOMETHING TERRIBLE WILL COME OUT OF SUCH A MARRIAGE.
ISORA. THIS IS WHAT THE ORACLE HAS DIVINED FOR YOU.
YOU MUST YIELD

FATHER, MOTHER.
HMM?
DO YOU THINK THERE IS SOMETHING I LACK?
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?!
YOU ARE SO NATURALLY BEAUTIFUL
YOU ARE A PRODIGY AT THE KOTO AND AT SONGS AND POETRY.
AND YOU HAVE ALWAYS BEEN A PERFECT AND RESPECTFUL DAUGHTER
THERE IS NO FAULT TO BE FOUND IN YOU.
THEN I SHALL DO ALL I CAN TO MAKE THE MAN I MARRY PROUD OF ME,
AS WELL AS THE WHOLE IZAWA FAMILY...
ISORA, ARE YOU SAYING THAT YOU TRUST IN YOUR CHOICE MORE THAN IN THE DIVINATION OF THE GODS?


PLEASE, GIVE ME TO SHOTARO-SAMA.
HUS-BAND...
WILL YOU NOT APOLOGIZE TO YOUR FATHER?
...
ABOUT THAT WOMAN... SODE.
SHE IS STILL ALONE IN THAT OTHER HOUSE.
ISORA!
HAVE YOU DONE ANYTHING TO SODE?!

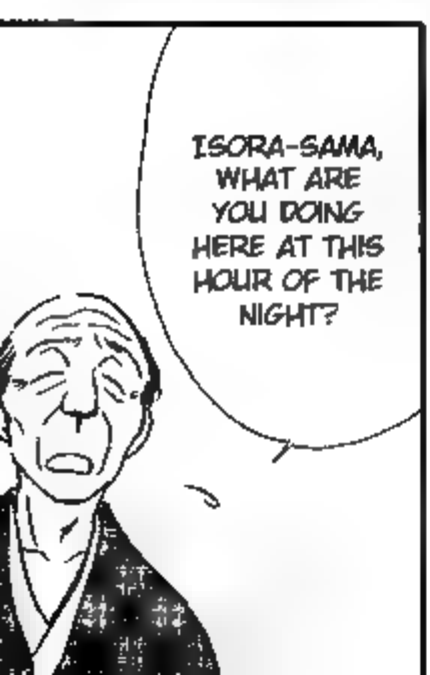
ISO-RA...
WHAT KIND OF WOMAN ARE YOU?!
PLEASE, DO NOT WORRY ABOUT HER.
YES... I THOUGHT IT MUST BE HARD FOR HER TO LIVE ALONE THERE, SO I SENT HER CLOTHES AND OTHER NECESSITIES.
FORGIVE ME! IT WAS ALL MY FAULT.
HUS-BAND...
IT IS JUST AS YOU SAID.
SHE WAS POOR AND MISERABLE... AND I TOOK PITY ON HER.

SO, PLEASE...
I SHALL SEVER ALL TIES WITH THAT WOMAN!
BUT TODAY, YOUR DEVOTION OPENED MY EYES!
OOH!
HUS-BAND, PLEASE ACCEPT THIS.
IT IS MY WISH TO SEND HER MONEY,
SO THAT SHE BEARS NO GRUDGE AGAINST ME AFTER OUR SEPARA-TION.
...
WHAT IS IT?
NOW, MAKE HASTE AND RELEASE ME!
THIS AMOUNT DOES SUFFICE!
COULD YOU... RAISE THE MONEY IN SECRET?

YES...
HUSBAND, YOU WILL COME BACK, WON'T YOU?
YES! I VOW THAT I SHALL DEFINITELY RETURN.
AND I SHALL DEVOTE THE REST OF MY LIFE TO YOU!
HAVE FAITH IN ME!
A-ha-ha!
Kya-ha-ha!
SHO-SAN, WE SUC-CEED!
YES, I CANNOT BELIEVE SHE TOOK THE BAIT SO EASILY!
MY STOMACH HURTS FROM LAUGHING!
SO, WHERE ARE WE GOING? HOW ABOUT MY HOMETOWN, IN HARIMA?
NO, LET'S GO TO THE CAPITAL.
WE SHALL LIVE IN MERRIMENT EVERY DAY!

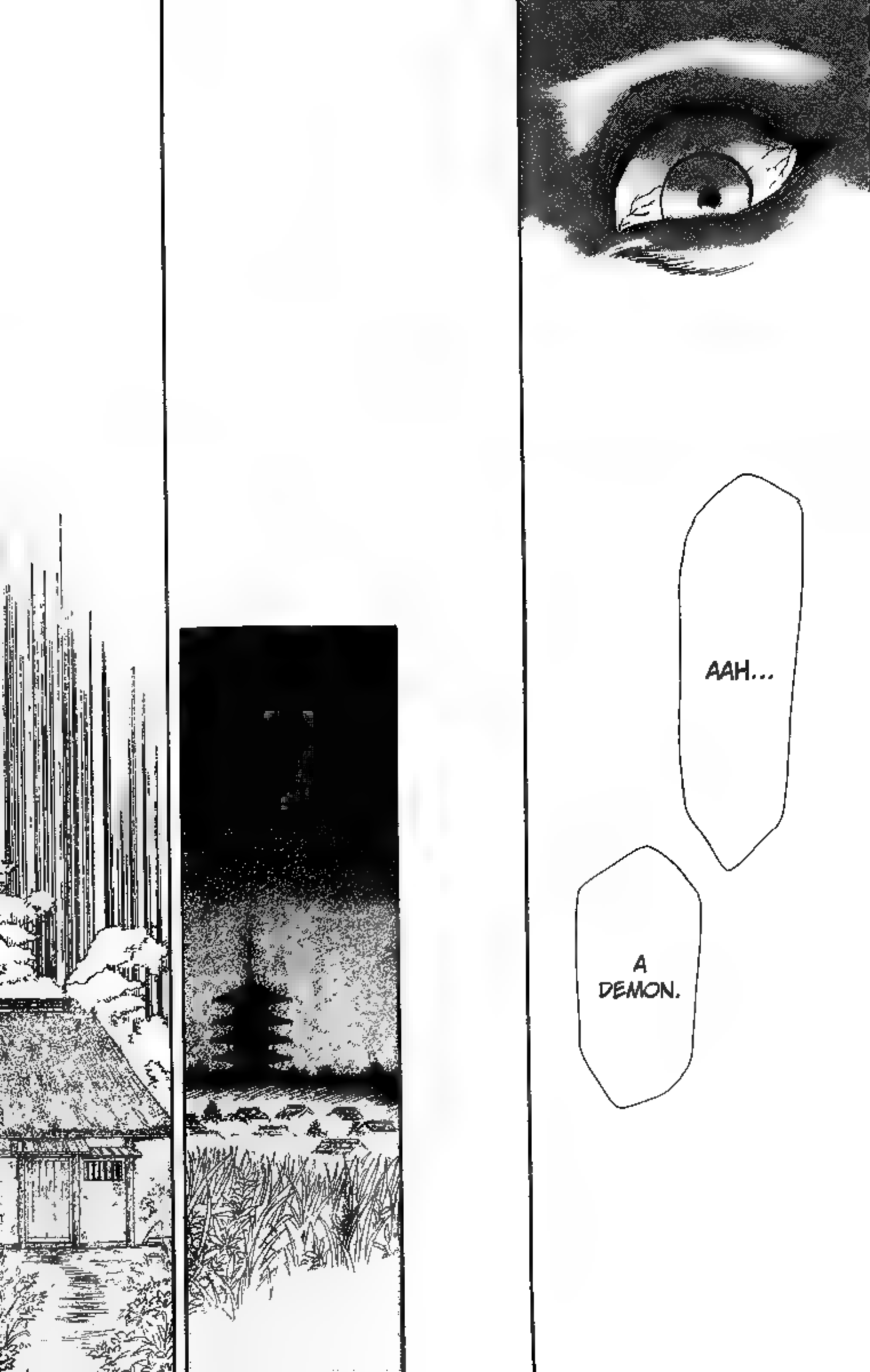
SHOU-SAN, KNOW THIS,
I AM WITH CHILD.

WHAT?! WHOSE IS IT?
FOOL!
YOURS, NATU-RALLY!


ISORA-SAMA, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE AT THIS HOUR OF THE NIGHT?

I AM...
BOILING RICE FOR SHOTARO-SAMA.
ISORA-SAMA, SHOTARO-SAMA IS...
HE WILL RETURN MOMENT NOW.
VERY SOON... I AM SURE.
I HEARD THAT SHE SOLD HER KIMONOS AND GAVE HIM THE MONEY.
POOR, POOR ISORA-SAMA.
HOW ADMI-RABLE OF HER... HOW COULD HE BETRAY SUCH A WIFE!
SHE HAS BEEN IN THAT STATE EVER SINCE SHOTARO-SAMA DIS-APPEARED
I DOUBT HE WILL EVER COME BACK HITHER.

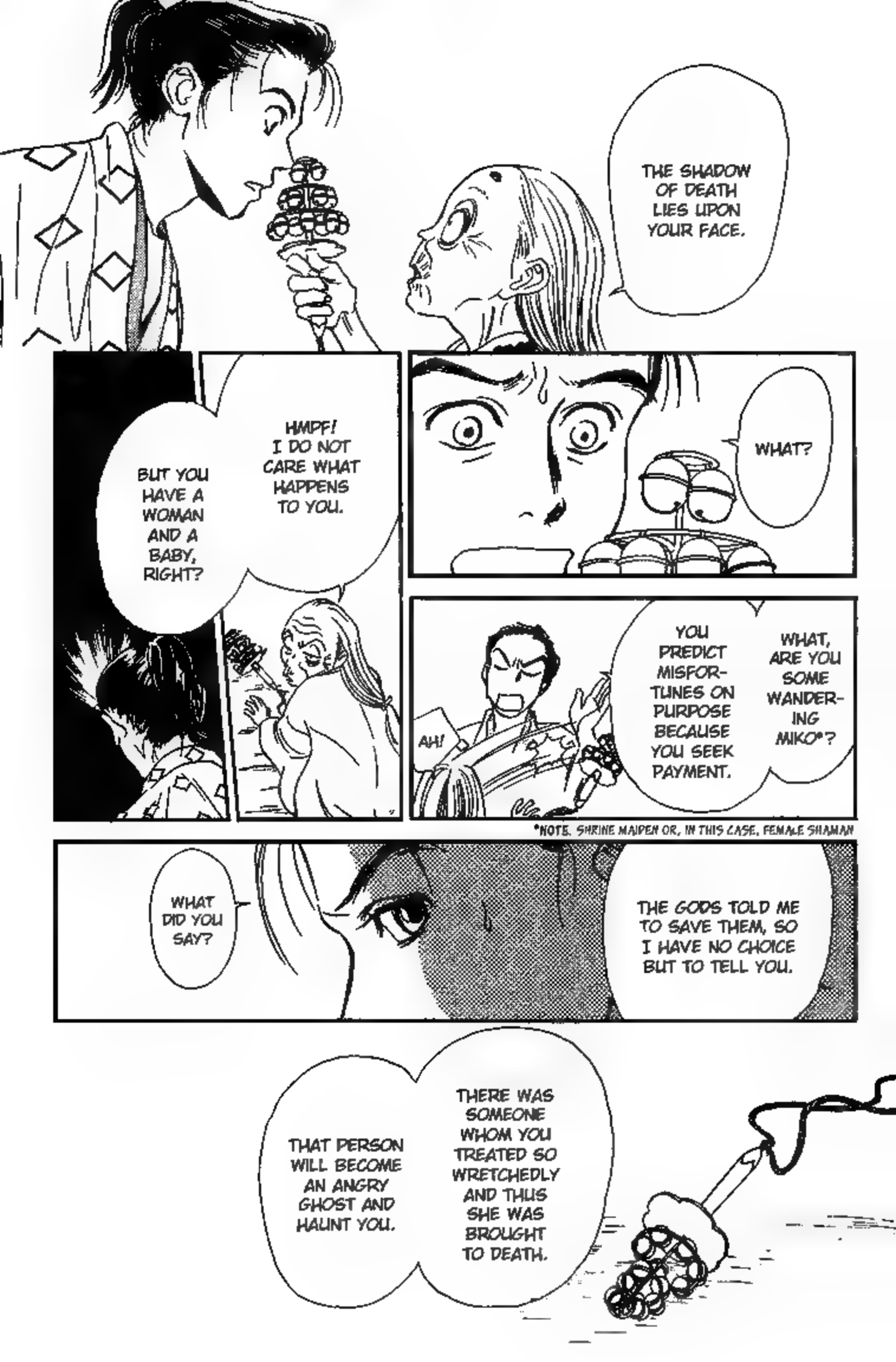
THUD
THUD
THUD
THUD
THUD


AAH...
A DEMON.

SNAP
SHO-SAN, DEAR... AGAIN!
IT HAP-PENED AGAIN!
Uch
Uch
Uch
Uch
Uch
Uch
Uch
DID YOU NOT SAY YOU HAD SEEN SO-METHING, TOO, LAST NIGHT, SHO-SAN?
AGRH, YOU ARE TOO LOUD!
BULLLIT... SOMEONE WAS SITTING ON MY STOMACH, SQUEEZING MY NECK, AND TRYING TO KILL ME!
IT HAS BE-FALLEN ME FOR SEVEN NIGHTS IN A ROW!

HUS-
BAND...
SHO-
TARO-
SAMA...
I WAS JUST IMAGINING THINGS.
WHAT .
WE'RE LOW ON MONEY ANYWAY, SO WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO PUT YOU TO WORK AGAIN.
IF YOU'RE SUFFERING SO MUCH, JUST ABORT THE BABY ALREADY.
IT'S ALL BECAUSE YOU HAVE MORNING SICKNESS AND KEEP MOANING.

GOOD GRIEF... CRYING, SHOUTING...
SODE HAS ALSO BECOME SUCH A BOTHER.
I SHALL ENJOY MYSELF THERE UNTIL HER MOOD PASSES.
YOU FIEND!
THIS BABY IS JUST AS MUCH YOURS AS IT IS MINE!
I WILL GIVE BIRTH AT ANY COST!
Shudder


THE SHADOW OF DEATH LIES UPON YOUR FACE.
WHAT?
HMPF! I DO NOT CARE WHAT HAPPENS TO YOU.
BUT YOU HAVE A WOMAN AND A BABY, RIGHT?
AH!
YOU PREDICT MISFORTUNES ON PURPOSE BECAUSE YOU SEEK PAYMENT.
WHAT, ARE YOU SOME WANDERING MIKO*?
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
THE GODS TOLD ME TO SAVE THEM, SO I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO TELL YOU.
THERE WAS SOMEONE WHOM YOU TREATED SO WRETCHEDLY AND THUS SHE WAS BROUGHT TO DEATH.
THAT PERSON WILL BECOME AN ANGRY GHOST AND HAUNT YOU.

*NOTE. SHRINE MAIDEN OR, IN THIS CASE, FEMALE SHAMAN

HER NAME...
WAS I...
SO...
RA...
SHE WAS A LADY, A VERY NOBLE YOUNG GIRL.
I HAVE NEVER KILLED ANYONE!
HOW DARE YOU LIE TO ME, OLD HAG!
HUS-BAND...
SHO-TARO-SAMA...
SLAM
SHO-SAN, WHAT IS IT? YOU LOOK DISCON-CERTED.
HUH?
HUH?
HUH?

YES. NOW LISTEN AND DO EXACTLY AS I TELL YOU.
THAT WOMAN DIED SEVEN DAYS AGO.
THAT'S PRECISELY WHEN THE NIGHT-MARES STARTED HAUNTING SODE
SEVEN DAYS.
HMPF! HER SOUL WAS CONSUMED BY HATRED AND SHE BECAME AN ANGRY GHOST.
BY NOW, NO LAMENTATION OR RELIGIOUS OFFERINGS CAN HELP.
WHAT HAVE I DONE...
ISORA... SO SHE IS DEAD?

AAAH... SHOTARO-SAMA...
WHERE ARE YOU?
WHERE ..
WHERE...
Cack e
I FOUND YOU...

THEN... WHITHER SHOULD I RUN?
TO THE WEST? TO THE EAST?
IT IS FUTILE. SHE WILL PURSUE...
...AND KILL YOU.
NO..! SO YOU WERE LYING WHEN YOU SAID YOU COULD HELP BEFORE?
I WAS NOT. THERE IS ONE WAY.
JUST ONE.
BUT...THE QUESTION IS, CAN YOU BEAR TO DO IT?
I SHALL DO IT!
I SHALL DO ANYTHING!
IN THAT CASE...

HEY, SODE! QUIET...
SOB
SOB
HOW COULD THIS BE?
AH...? I CANNOT ENTER TONIGHT.
AAH...HOW NOSTALGIC, SHOTARO-SAMA'S VOICE.
山
呪
児
昌
目
目
SHOR
HUSBAND.. YOUR ISORA HAS COME FOR YOU.
PLEASE, RETURN WITH ME...

AND THIS SHALL CONTINUE FOR 41 MORE NIGHTS...

山鬼鬼鬼

SHOTARO-SAMA... HUSBAND.
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
PLEASE, OPEN UP.
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
I KNOW... I KNOW HOW KIND AND HOW GENTLE YOU ARE.
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
YOU HAVE TAKEN PITY ON THE POOR WOMAN AGAIN AND CANNOT A-BANDON HER.
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
COME, OPEN UP.
SHO-TARO-SAMA...
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
I WILL EXPLAIN EVERYTHING TO THE DEAR FATHER-IN-LAW AND MOTHER-IN-LAW.
BUT DO NOT BE ANX-IOUS.
SCRATCH
EEK!

HUS-
BAND...
SHO-
TARO-
SAMA.
WHEN
WILL
YOU
RETURN?
正正正正
*NOTE: THE MARKS ON THE WALL ARE A WAY OF COUNTING. IT MEANS IT HAS BEEN 17 NIGHTS.
NOW I
HAVE
TO
BEAR
THE
SHAME
FOR
YOU...
DO YOU
THINK
THIS IS
GOOD..?
Bang

Bang
WHA...
EEK!
THIS IS SO MORTIFYING! I CURSE YOU!
YOU SWORE YOU WOULD RETURN.
YOU SWORE YOU WOULD DEVOTE YOUR LIFE TO ME!
I SHALL NOT FORGIVE YOU.
I SHALL NOT FORGIVE YOU.
AAAH!
AAA-AAH!
NEET

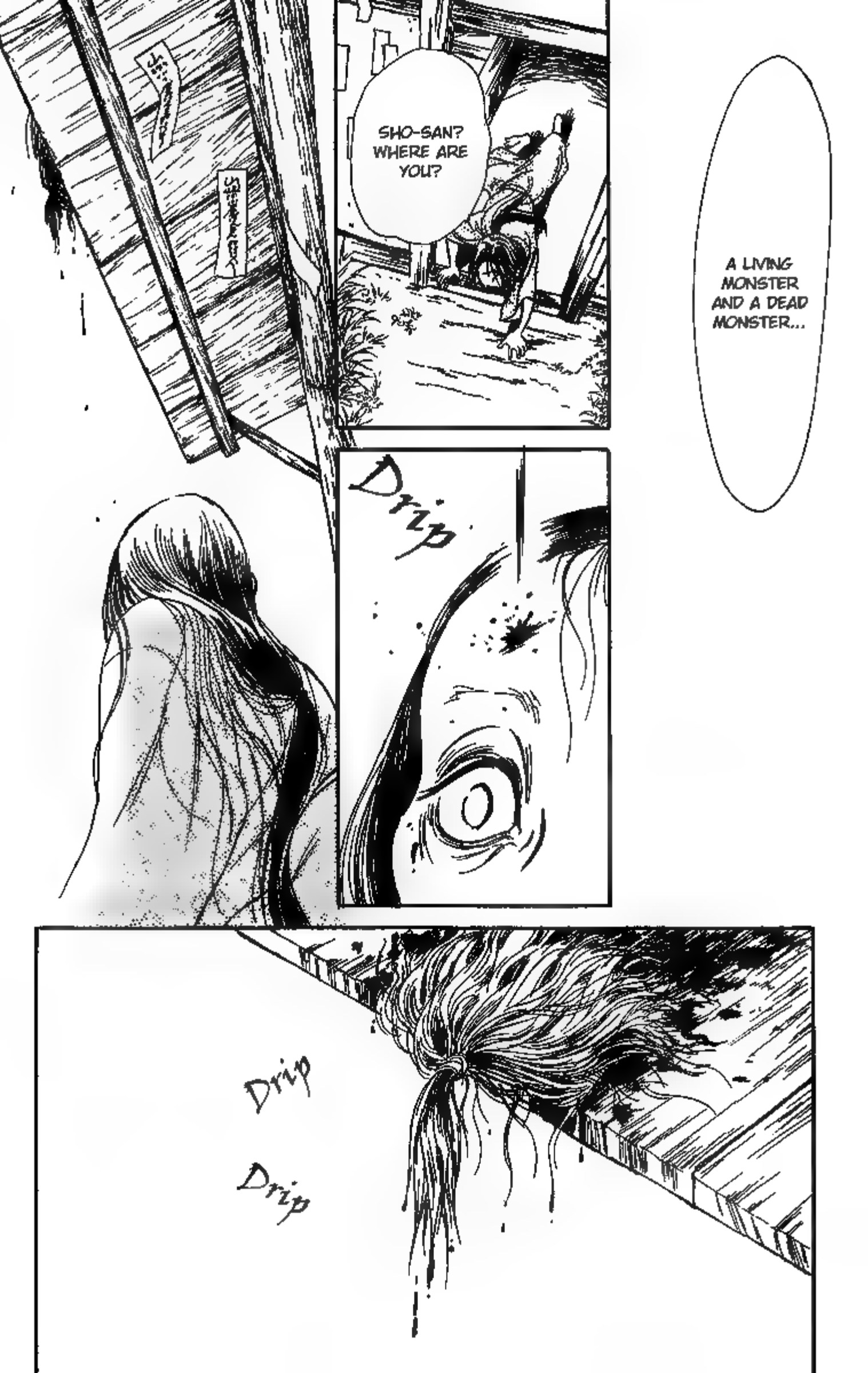
Bang
Bang
AAH... WHAT MISERY!
AAH...
AAH...
IT HURTS SO MUCH.
SUCH PAIN...
Bang
HELP ME, SHO-SAN...
SHO-TARO-SAMA.
AAH, THE MIS-ERY...

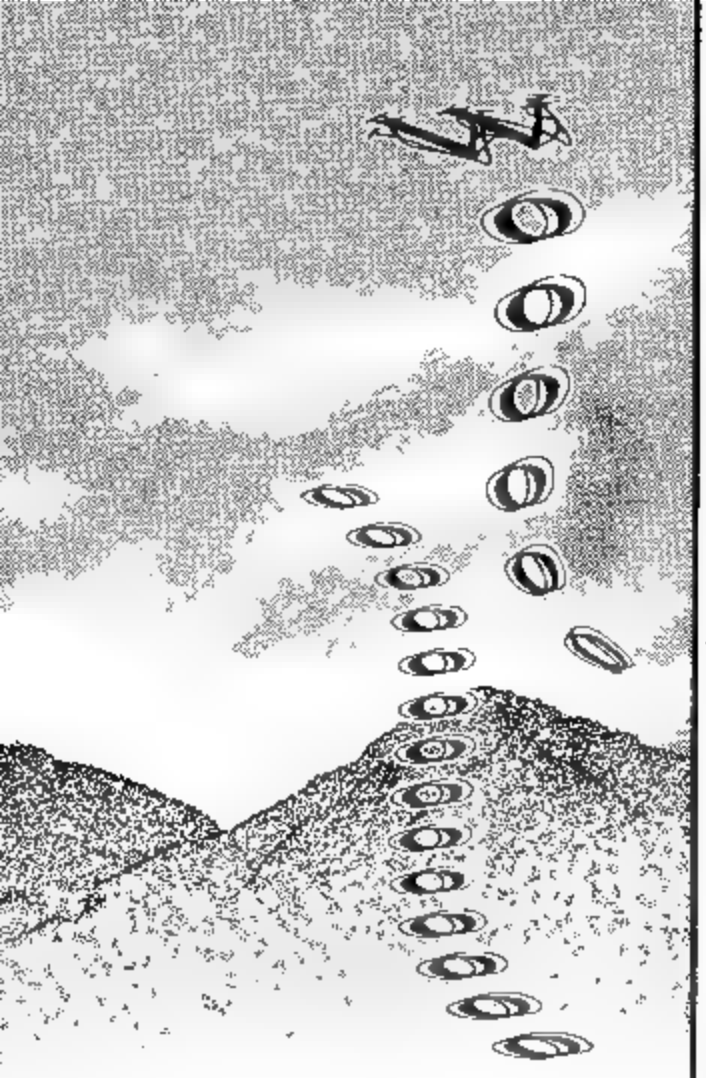
THE LAST ONE...
TONIGHT IS THE LAST NIGHT.
*NOTE. 41 DAYS
SOB
SOB
SOB
FINALLY, EVERY-THING WILL CEASE...
EVEN SO, WHATEVER YOU DO IS UNAVAILING.
W-WHAT... ARE YOU CRYING, ISORA?
SOB
SOB
AAH... HUS-BAND.

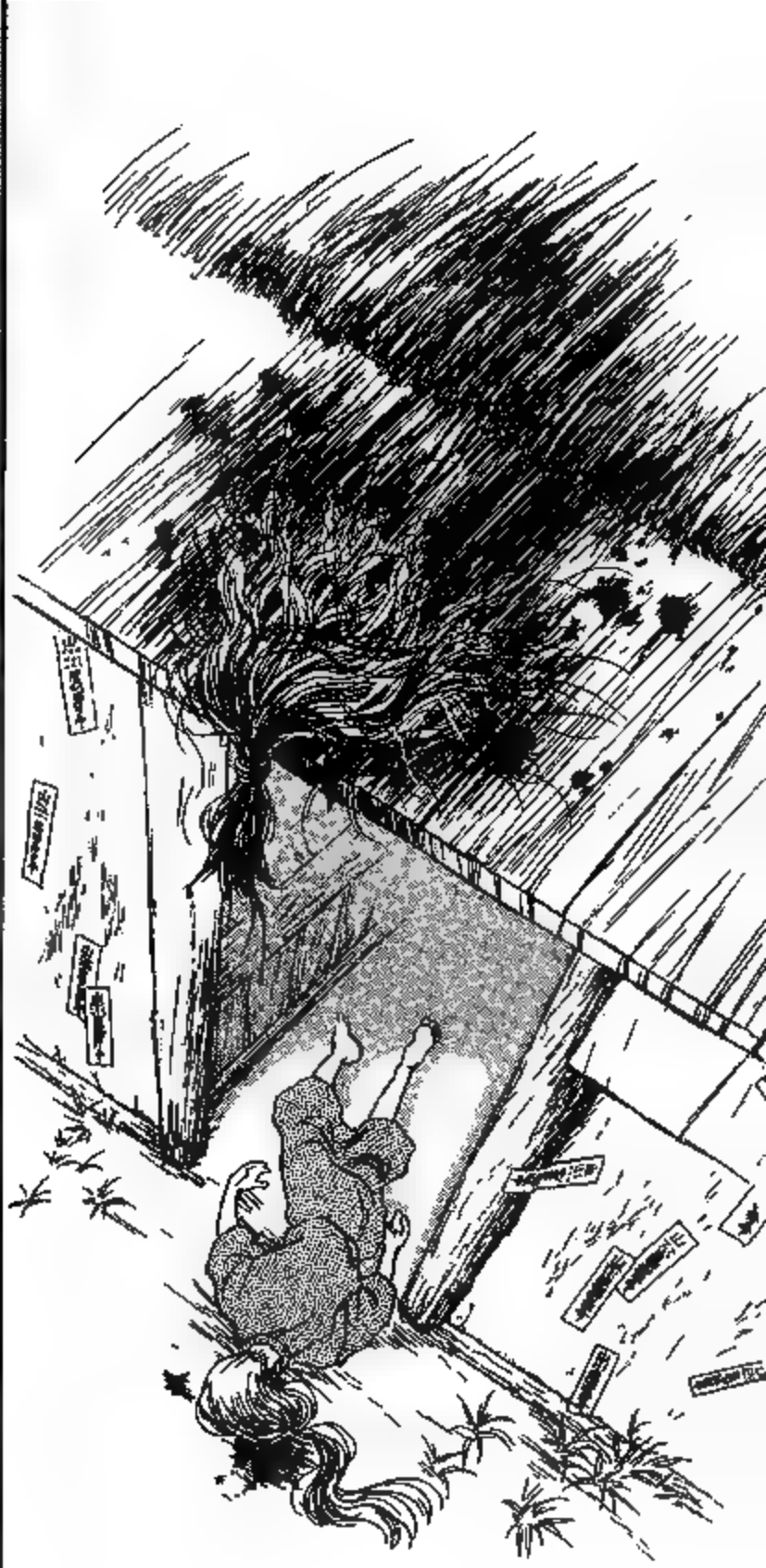
AT THE BREAKING OF THE DAWN... ISORA, YOU WILL LOSE.
SHO-SAN... DEAR...
AH, SODE, YOU HAVE ENDURED VERY WELL.
BUT LOOK HOW YOU HAVE BE-COME...
I REGRET NOTHING,
AS LONG AS I CAN BE A GOOD WIFE TO YOU.
YOUR ISORA REGRETS NOTHING.

Eeeeek!
ISORA! STAY AWAY! STAY AWAY!
DEAR, WHAT IS IT?
SHO-SAN! DON'T! THE NIGHT IS NOT OVER—

ISO-RA...
SHO-TARO-SAMA..!
I SHALL NEVER LET YOU GO AGAIN.
AAH... I AM SO HAPPY.
WE ARE HUSBAND AND WIFE MADE FOR EACH OTHER!
ISORA.


SHO-SAN? WHERE ARE YOU?
A LIVING MONSTER AND A DEAD MONSTER...
Drip
Drip
Drip





AH!
THE CAULDRON RESOUNDS LOUD AND CLEAR TODAY.

IT MEANS THAT THE GODS ARE THINKING ABOUT US.
IT RESOUNDS OR STAYS SILENT,
BUT WHE-THER
YES, THAT MUST BE IT.
THEN SOMEONE'S WISH MUST HAVE COME TRUE.

THE CAULDRON OF KIBITSU / THE END

AERANDRIA

THE RAPID TOOLS BEHIND YOUR FAVORITE RELEASES!

Ugetsu Monogatari
Chapter 02

Lacaille :SCANNER
Mari :TRANSLATOR
Lacaille :PROOFREADER
arterm s_nova & Aaron :EDITORS
Lacaile :QUALITY CHECK

See? Even in ancient times, men wore makeup!!!

- Lacaille

AOZUKIN

CLANK
CLANK
CLANK

BANG

JUST LOOK AT THIS YEAR'S CROPS!

DON'T STOP MOVING THE CLAPPERS!

YOU IDIOT!

OUCH!

DAMN...

Drag Drag Drag

I WAS JUST DOING IT LIKE THIS AND LISTENING TO THEIR FOOTSTEPS.

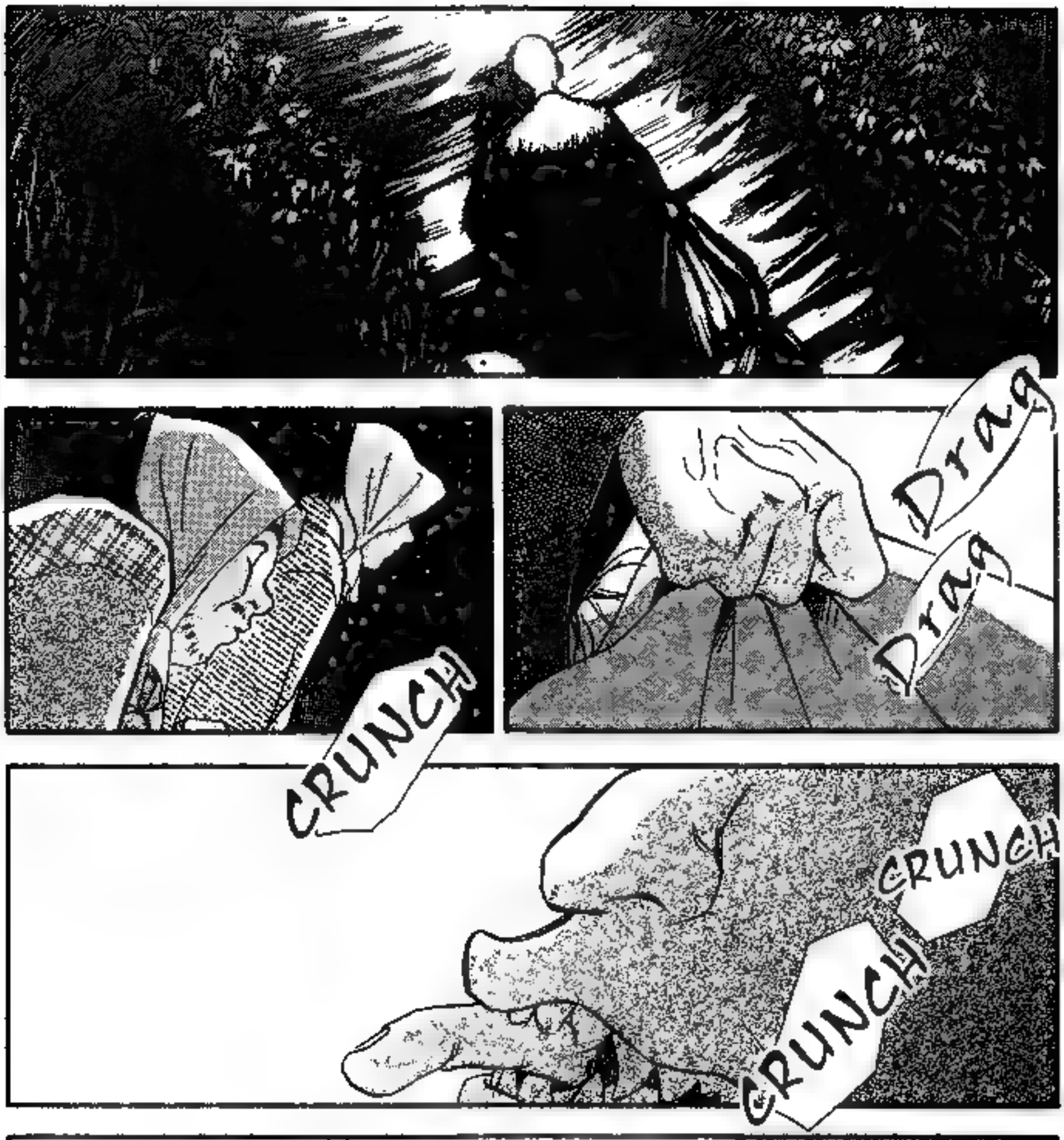
IT'S NOT AS IF I WAS ASLEEP.

I KNOW THAT!

WE CAN'T LET ANY WILD ANIMALS GET IN HERE.

SHIP
Creep
Creep
Creep

AOZUKIN



WAAAAAAAA!

GYAAAAAAA!

JINGLE

CLANK

JINGLE

EEECK!

CLANK

PLEASE RE-TURN THIS STAY A LITTLE LONGER IN OUR TOWN!!!

I'M NEVER COMIN'!

CLANK

CLANK

JINGLE

CLANK

JINGLE

AAAAAAAAAA

EEEECK!

CLINK

CLINK

OLD MASTER

PLEASE RE-THINK THIS! STAY A LITTLE LONGER IN OUR TEMPLE!

OLD MASTER SAGAN!

CLINK

YOUR TEMPLE WAS VERY HOSPITABLE TO ME FOR THIS YEAR'S GEANGO*,

BUT AFTER ALL, I AM, BY NATURE, AN UNSUI*.

BUT EVERY-ONE SAID THEY WANTED TO LISTEN TO YOUR TEACH-INGS MORE,

OLD MASTER.

I CANNOT STAY IN ONE PLACE FOR TOO LONG. SO PLEASE, EXCUSE ME.

LIKE THE CLOUDS FLOATING IN THE SKY,

AND THE WATER FLOWING IN THE STREAM,

WE'RE NOT BOUND BY ANYTHING. THAT IS ALL I CAN TEACH ANYONE.

※ 1 GEANGO – A SERVICE HELD AT ONE SPECIFIC PLACE DURING THE THIRD MONTH OF SUMMER

※ 2 UNSUI – A WANDERING MONK WHO CANNOT STOP PERMANENTLY ANYWHERE AND TEACHES AS HE GOES

AH, I WAS LUCKY TO FIND A SETTLEMENT BEFORE DARK.

I'LL ASK FOR SHELTER HERE FOR TONIGHT.

WAAAH!

HEY!

THAT'S—

WAAAH!

WAAA!

THE DEMON HAS COME DOWN FROM THE MOUN-TAIN!

THE DEMON!

THUD

THROW

IT'S NO USE TRYING TO HIDE YOUR HORNS BELOW THAT BLUE HOOD.

SHOW YOUR TRUE FORM!

SUR-ROUND HIM!

HMPF! KEEP IT TO-GETHER, EVERY-ONE!

YES, MASTER, OVER THERE!

IS IT TRUE? HAS THE DEMON COME?!

NO HORNS.

OH...?

AND WHEN I LOOK CLOSELY, THE FACE IS DIFFER-ENT...

HEY...YOU, MONK, WHAT IS YOUR NAME?

I'M KAIAN, A POOR, HUNGRY TRAVELLING MONK ON A PILGRIMAGE.

BUT YOU MUST BE EVEN MORE MALNOUR-ISHED THAN ME TO MIS-TAKE ME FOR A DEMON.

EEECK!

YOU PEOPLE, HOW COULD YOU MAKE SUCH A MIS-TAKE?

HEY, DID YOU HEAR?

THAT MONK IS ACTUALLY A VERY HIGH-RANKING PRIEST OF THE DAITOKO SECT!

THAT'S WHY THE MASTER WAS SO FREAKED OUT WHEN HE HEARD HIS NAME.

IT MEANS HE'S A *REALLY* BIG SHOT!

DAI-TOKO...?

EVEN SO!

HEH! WHAT CAN SOME REEDY STARVED MONK LIKE HIM DO?

BUT...

AND HIS PRIEST'S STOLE IS SPARKLY.

TALKING ABOUT BIG-SHOT MONKS, THE ONE IN THE MOUNTAIN OVER THE VILLAGE IS MUCH GREATER.

THIS IS BAD...WE THREW ROCKS AT THAT PRIEST.

DO YOU THINK HE'LL PUNISH US FOR IT?

AOZUKIN

KAIAN-SAMA, HOW IS YOUR WOUND?

OH, IT'S NOTHING SERIOUS.

I'M VERY DEEPLY GRATEFUL FOR YOUR GREAT HOSPITALITY.

THAT PRIEST TURNED INTO A DEMON.

SUCH KIND WORDS...

THERE, THERE, PLEASE RAISE YOUR HEAD.

PLEASE, PLEASE FORGIVE US FOR THE VIOLENCE!

MORE IMPORTANTLY, MY GOOD HOST.

WHY WERE THE PEOPLE OF THE VILLAGE SO SCARED WHEN THEY SAW ME?

THEY CALLED ME A DEMON.

BUT DOES THAT MEAN THERE'S SOMEONE IN THIS VILLAGE WHO DONS INDIGO COLORED GARMENTS AND DOES EVIL TO THE PEOPLE?

NO...

IT'S A REAL DEMON.

ALTHOUGH I DON'T EXPECT YOU TO BELIEVE THIS...

NO...

THE CONFUSION AND SCREAMS I HEARD WERE GENUINE.

LET ME HEAR THE STORY.

IN THE MOUNTAIN OVER THIS VILLAGE, THERE'S A PRESTIGIOUS TEMPLE COMPLEX WITH A SINGLE TOWER*.

THE CURRENT CHIEF PRIEST IS A VERY STRICT PERSON,

BUT EVERYBODY REVERED AND RESPECTED HIM BECAUSE OF HIS EXCELLENCE IN HIS STUDIES AND HIS RELIGIOUS ZEAL.

BUT THE YEAR BEFORE LAST, A NEW CHIGO* STARTED TO SERVE THE CHIEF PRIEST.

FOR GENERATIONS, ONLY AJARI* HAVE BEEN INHABITING THAT TEMPLE.

※1 THERE IS A TOWER (PAGODA-STUPA ETC) IN BUDDHIST TEMPLES

※2 AJARI - A VERY VIRTUOUS PRIEST

*NOTE: CHIGO WERE YOUNG, BEAUTIFUL BOYS, WHO SERVED IN TEMPLES AND RICH HOUSEHOLDS, OFFICIALLY THEY WERE SERVANTS BUT WHAT THEY REALLY OFFERED WAS USUALLY SEX

* KANJOU - A RITUAL OF THE ESOTERIC BUDDHIST TEACHINGS WHERE THE VARIOUS BUDDHAS SHOWER DOWN THEIR KNOWLEDGE AND ENLIGHTENMENT

EVEN THE STERN AJARI STARTED FAVORING HIM QUITE A LOT.

IN FACT, SO MUCH SO THAT HE STARTED TO NEGLECT HIS EVERY-DAY DUTIES.

IT WAS A BOY THE AJARI BROUGHT FROM ECHIZEN, WHERE HE WAS INVITED TO LEAD A KANJOU* RITUAL.

THE BOY WAS TWELVE TO THIR-TEEN-YEARS OLD.

HOWEVER, LAST SUMMER, THIS CHIGO FELL ILL.

HE DIED IN AUTUMN.

BUT HIS BEAUTY WAS RADIANT.

THE AJARI GRIEVED SO MUCH HE LOST HIS MIND.

AND THERE WAS THE AJARI, TRANS-FORMED INTO A DEMON...

...DEVOUR-ING THE FLESH OF THE DEAD CHIGO.

FOR DAYS, HE KEPT ON VISITING THE DEAD BODY OF THE CHIGO.

A DEMON...

ONE DAY, A WORRIED MONK DE-CIDED TO TAKE A PEEK INTO THE ROOM.

LAST AUTUMN, WHEN I WAS GUARDING THE FIELDS AT NIGHT, WE HEARD A SOUND.

YES, I SAW HIM TOO!

I SAW HIM!

YES, AND WHEN WE LOOKED IN THE DIREC-TION OF THE NOISE,

HE WAS CHEWING ON ITS ARM WHILE WALKING.

THERE WAS A GUY IN THE SAME DARK CLOTHES AS THIS PRIEST, DRAGGING A HUMAN CORPSE.

WE WERE PETRIFIED WITH FEAR AND DIDN'T MOVE,

BUT HE SLOWLY TURNED TOWARDS US AND...

THERE ARE SEVERAL OTHER PEOPLE WHO HAVE SEEN THE DEMON.

ME TOO...

THAT'S A REAL DEMON!

YES, AND HE HAD HORNS ON HIS FOREHEAD, TOO.

BUT HIS EXPRESSION WAS SO TERRIFYING...

IT WAS REALLY THE FACE OF THE PRIEST OF THE MOUNTAIN TEMPLE.

I SAW HIM WITH MY OWN EYES ON A NIGHT WITH A FULL MOON. A SHADOW, RUNNING AROUND IN THE FIELDS, SCREAMING WITH AN INHUMAN VOICE.

*A TYPE OF MYTHICAL TERM FOR CHINA

EVEN IN FARAWAY MOROKOSHI*.

PERHAPS...

FROM TIME IMMEMORIAL, THERE ARE PLENTY OF STORIES ABOUT PEOPLE TRANSFORMING.

IS IT REALLY POSSIBLE FOR HUMANS TO TURN INTO DEMONS?

DO YOU STILL NOT BELIEVE US?

THERE'S A STORY ABOUT A BRAVE WARRIOR WHOSE MOTHER WAS A WOLF.

AND ONE OF A CERTAIN COURT LADY WHO WANTED TO KEEP HER WAIST SLIM SO MUCH THAT SHE DIED AND TURNED INTO A MOTH.

A TALE OF A WIFE WHO BECAME A NIGHT DEMON.

A STORY OF A WOMAN WHO TOOK THE FORM OF A SHEEP AND ASSAULTED A TRAVELLING MONK IN HIS SLEEP...

BUT THEY'RE ALL STORIES ABOUT JEALOUS WOMEN AND GIRLS.

THE DEMON OF THIS VILLAGE USED TO BE A VIRTUOUS MONK, SO HOW COULD HE TURN INTO SUCH A GRUESOME THING?

HE JUST GOT WHAT WAS COMING TO HIM.

EVERYONE KNOWS THAT.

WELL, HE'S A REPLACE-MENT FOR A GIRL, RIGHT?

HEY, YOU!

MASTER PRIEST,

RATHER THAN WORK AS A SER-VANT AND STUFF, A CHIGO AC-TUALLY...

SO HE SERVED BUDDHA AND YET BECAME SEX-CRAZED.

THEN HE GOT EXACTLY WHAT HE DESERVED. BUDDHA SENT HIM TO HELL WHILE HE WAS STILL ALIVE.

...BUDDHA DOES NOT DO SUCH THINGS.

THEN HOW COME—

HYAAAAAAAAA

WHAT WAS THAT?

IT'S... THE DEMON'S CRY.

IN THE MORNING, THERE WAS A HEAD AND SOME LEFTOVER INNARDS IN THE FIELD.

AFTER THE LOCAL PEOPLE HEARD THIS RUMOR, THEY HAVEN'T APPROACHED THE PLACE.

AH, IT'S ALL SO ANNOYING.

YOU MEAN THE DEMON IS STILL UP IN THE MOUNTAIN?

YES, PROBABLY IN THE TEMPLE.

EVERYONE RAN AWAY FROM THERE, SO SCARED OF IT THEY WERE.

SO HE'S ALONE EVEN NOW...

STAY SAFE!

KAIAN-SAMA!

WELL THEN, I'LL BE GOING.

HEY, DO YOU THINK THAT PRIEST REALLY WENT TO THE DEMON?

YES, HE'LL MAKE IT STOP DOING EVIL THINGS TO THE VILLAGE.

WE'D HAVE TOLD IT TO STOP.

IF IT WERE THAT EASY,

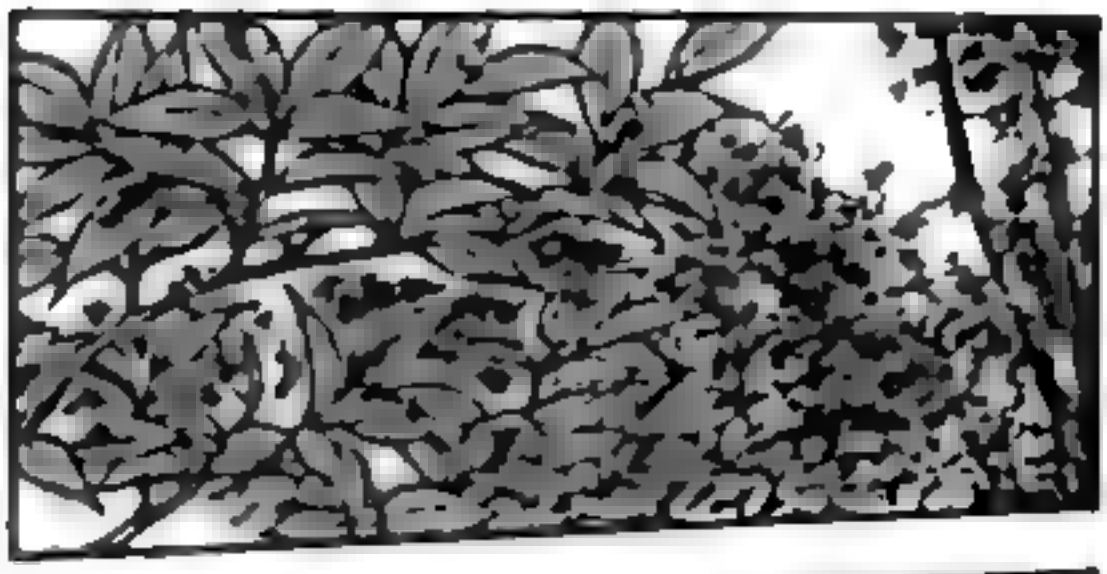
AND WHAT IF IT AT-TACKED US?

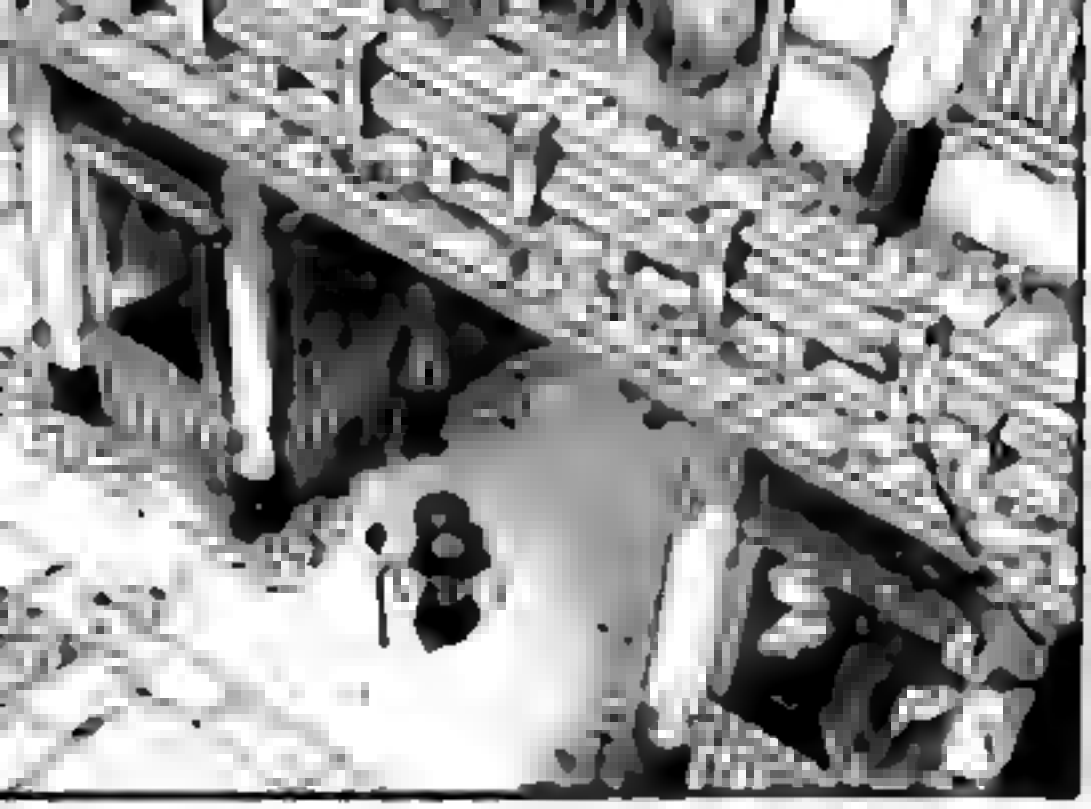
A DEMON DOES NOT LISTEN TO ANYBODY.

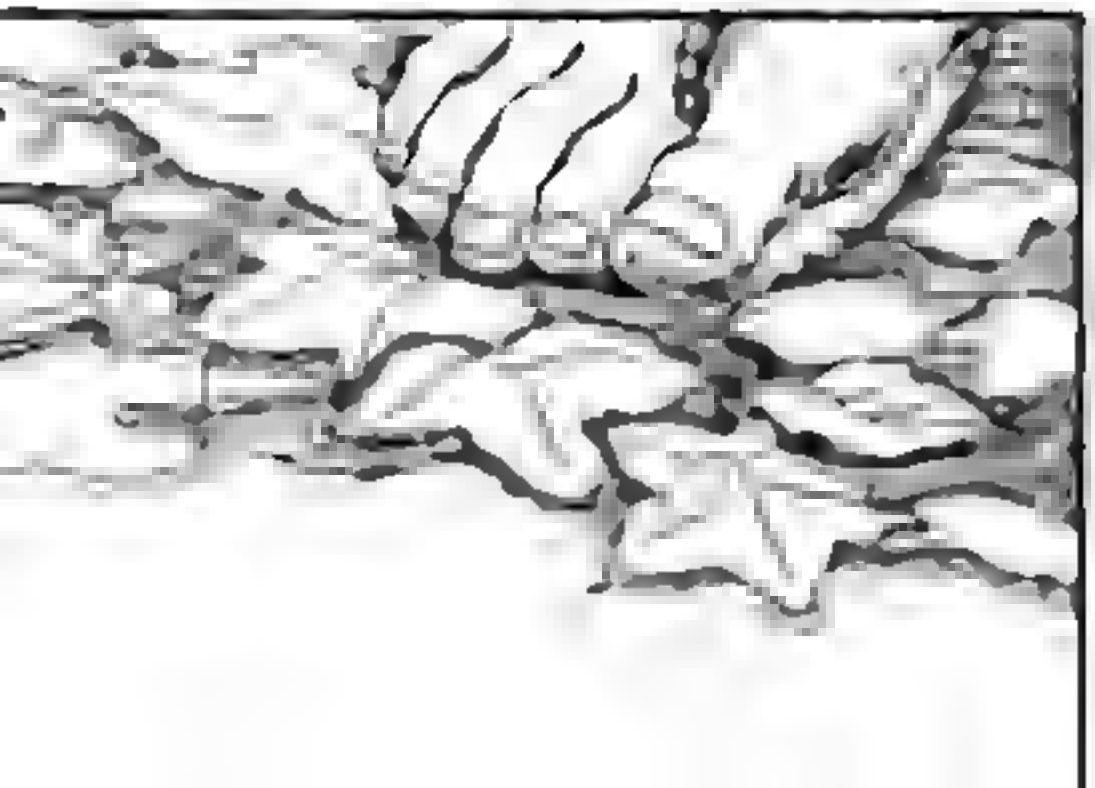
I CAN'T SAY ANY-THING FOR CERTAIN BEFORE WE MEET.

WELL, IT'LL BE MY FIRST TIME MEETING A DEMON.

WELL, EVEN IF HE FAILS,
IT'S NOT AS IF THE DEMON WILL EAT THE WHOLE VILLAGE
AFTER ALL, I THINK THAT PRIEST WAS VERY STUPID







WHAT A WASTE...

WHO ARE YOU?

WHAT DOES A MONK OF ANOTHER SECT WANT IN MY RANNVA*?

I'M AN UNSUI, AND MY NAME IS KAIAN.

BUT I DIDN'T KNOW THAT WAS ANYONE HERE.

AH, HOW RUDE OF ME.

*NOTE RANNVA - A TEMPLE OR OTHER PLACE OF RELIGIOUS WORSHIP

I CAME FOR A DEMON.

THE CHIEF PRIEST OF THIS TEMPLE TURNED INTO A DEMON AND TORMENTS THE VILLAGERS.

I CAME HERE TO ENLIGHTEN HIM AND HELP HIM RETURN TO THE PURE HEART HE ORIGINALLY HAD.

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU TOOK THAT STORY AS TRUTH.

ARE YOU SAYING IT IS NOT?

Ha!

Ha!

Ha!

Ha!

Ha!

THEY MADE UP ALL THESE RUMORS AND SPREAD THEM.

IT WAS AN EXCUSE FOR THE PEOPLE OF THIS TEMPLE TO RUN AWAY FROM THE STERNNESS OF THEIR RELIGIOUS TRAINING.

THE TEACHING...

I FEEL REFRESHED WITHOUT ALL THOSE PEOPLE TO TEACH.

CHIEF PRIEST, DO YOU NOT FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE ON YOUR OWN?

NO, THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR AN OLD MONK WITH FRAIL LEGS LIKE ME.

I KNOW I'LL BE CAUSING YOU GREAT INCONVENIENCE,

THERE'S NOT ENOUGH FOOD AND I'M NOT PREPARED TO HAVE ANYONE SLEEP HERE.

IF YOU'RE SATISFIED NOW, GET OFF THIS MOUNTAIN.

BUT PLEASE LET ME STAY HERE FOR ONE NIGHT.

IN THAT CASE, DO WHAT YOU PLEASE.

inhale

AHHH ...

scratch

scratch

scratch

AHH, HOW MORTIFY-ING.

THAT DAMNED FILTHY MONK THINKS HE CAN 'ENLIGHTEN' ME.

screech

screech

screech

HE THINKS I ONLY EAT CARRION.

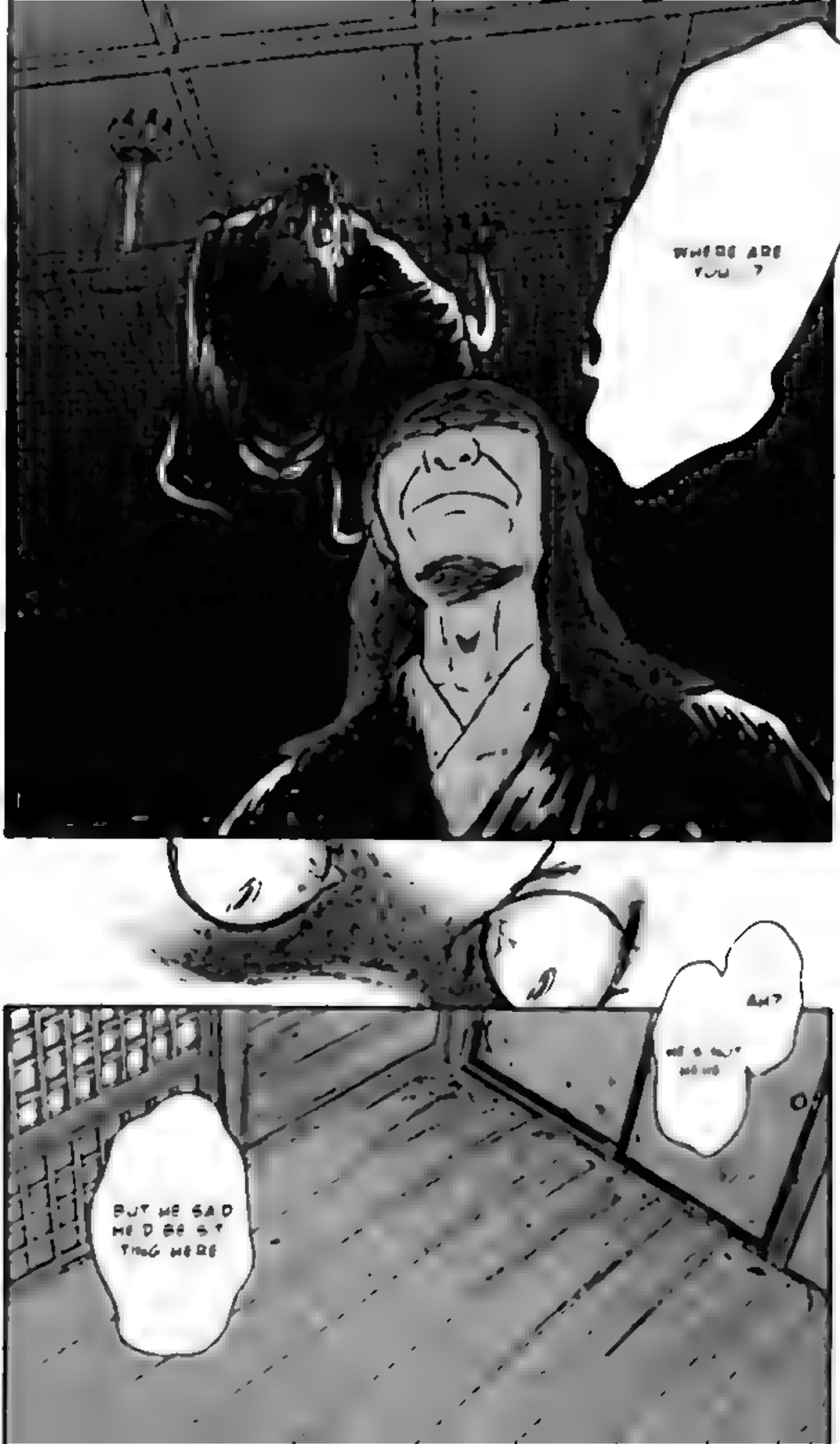
LET'S EAT HIM.

I'LL RIP OFF YOUR THROAT,

TEAR INTO YOUR GUTS,

I'LL EAT YOU ALIVE, MONK.

Haaaaaaaaaaaa


WHERE ARE YOU ?
BUT HE SAID HE'D BE AT THAT HERE

WHERE ARE YOU, KAIAN-DONO?

WHERE

SO HE'S HIDING

D'D HE RUN AWAY?

NO. IMPOSSIBLE.

WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO DEBATE WITH ME?

TRY TO TELL ME OFF?

KYAA-A-A!

SLAM!

MONK!

WHERE ARE YOU?

YOU DAMNED MONK!

BANG!

AHHH!

HYAAA

BANG!

BANG!

BANG!

KYAAA

AAA

AAA

AAA

AAA

YES.

I SPENT THE WHOLE NIGHT HERE.

YOU'VE BEEN SIT-TING HERE THE WHOLE TIME, ZEN* MASTER?

*NOTE ZEN IS THE PREFERRED KIND OF BUDDHISM IN JAPAN, IT'S FAMOUS FOR ITS MEDITAT.VE PRACTICES

WHY DIDN'T I SEE YOU...?

WHY...?

CHIEF PRIEST, WHAT HAS HAPPENED?

IF YOU'RE STARVED, YOU ARE FREE TO THIS MONK'S MEAT UNTIL YOU'RE FULL.

GUAH!

WHY AREN'T YOU RUNNING?

DO YOU STILL WANT TO SAVE ME?

ARE YOU GOING TO OFFER YOURS TO ME TO SAVE ME?

JUST LIKE BUDDHA OFFERED HIS BODY TO A HUNGRY TIGER,

YAKATA-SAMA, YOU WANT ME TO TAKE THIS CHILD TO THE TEMPLE?

IF WE LEAVE HIM AT HOME, HE WILL ONLY SOW THE SEEDS OF DISCORD.

FOR HIS OWN GOOD, TAKE HIM TO THE TEMPLE.

BUDDHA WILL SAVE YOU.

DO NOT HATE US.

I SEE. SO BUDDHA SAVED ME?

IN THAT CASE, I SHOULD BE GRATEFUL.

I MUST DEVOTE MY SOUL TO HIS SERVICE.

I HAVE TO BECOME A PERSON, FIT TO SPREAD HIS TEACH-INGS.

A WHOLE LIFE DE-VOTED TO THAT...

HOW-EVER...

YOUR TEA.

PLEASE.

AHH, YOU LUCKY LAD! THIS WAY YOU WILL SERVE SUCH A GREAT PERSON.

YOU'RE FROM A POOR FAMILY, RIGHT?

THIS WAY, YOU WILL BE OF SERVICE TO YOUR PARENTS, TOO.

YOU WILL GO, RIGHT?

IN A SINGLE INSTANT, I WAS BE-WITCHED BY THAT BEAUTY.

EVER SINCE THEN, I'VE BEEN UNABLE TO REMOVE THAT BOY FROM MY HEART EVEN FOR A MOMENT.

YOU WANT TO TAKE THIS BOY WITH YOU?

YES... AS YOU WISH, MASTER.

*NOTE "BOY OF THE WHITE SAKURA"

THE JOY OF THAT MOMENT...

FROM NOW ON, YOUR NAME WILL BE BYAKOU-MARU*.

NO PRAYER TO BUDDHA HAD EVER BROUGHT ME SUCH DELIGHT.

WITH CRIMSON LIPS, WHITE FACE POWDER AND KANE*, BYAKOUMARU WAS MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN ANY WOMAN

HE WAS MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN ANYONE ELSE'S CHIGO.

*NOTE KANE - PASTE FOR BLACKENING TEETH, IT WAS CONSIDERED IMPROPER FOR A WOMAN TO SHOW HER TEETH, SO NOBLEWOMEN USUALLY BLACKENED THEM

HEY, BYAKU!

BYAKOUMARU, WHERE ARE YOU?

HE-HE-HE-

GIGGLE

HEY, DON'T DO SUCH THINGS...

I TOLD YOU, STOP PUTTING THIS ROCK ON THE BOARD.

ALL RIGHT?

BYAKOU-MARU!

COME HERE!

EHM, NOTH-ING...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

Ah?

YOU'RE MINE AND MINE ONLY!

LISTEN WELL!

I'M NOT GOING TO GIVE YOU TO ANYONE ELSE!

IF I COULD HEAR THESE WORDS EVERY DAY, I NEEDED NOTHING ELSE.

YES...

AS YOU WISH, MASTER.

I DON'T HAVE ANY STRENGTH ..

WHAT IS IT, BYAK-OUMARU?

IF ONLY YOU WERE WITH ME...

Crash!

BYAKOU-MARU!

WATER.

I WANT WATER...

ARE YOU THIRSTY, BYAKOU-MARU?

HERE, DRINK THIS MEDI-CINE.

YOU CAN'T DRINK IT? HERE THEN, LET ME...

HE DIDN'T GIVE A DAMN WHEN I WAS HAVING THOSE STOMACH PAINS.

HE EVEN CALLED THE DOCTOR OF THE DISTRICT'S GOVERNMENT OFFICE FOR THAT CHIGO.

HE BOWED HIS HEAD TO THE GROUND AND BEGGED HIM FOR HELP.

MY, MY, HOW SHAMELESS!

AND LOOK WHAT HAPPENED.

I WENT SO FAR AS TO DO THAT.

DO NOT TOUCH HIM.

EHM... CHIEF PRIEST.

THE BODY IS GOING RIGID, SO PLEASE, LEAVE IT TO REST.

COME HERE, I'LL EMBRACE YOU. IT'LL WARM YOU UP.

AH, THERE, THERE. YOU'RE SO COLD.

LIPSTICK, FACE POWDER, KANE.

HEY, BYA-KOUMARU.

STOP SULKING ALREADY. I'VE LOST.

I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY DAYS PASSED LIKE THAT.

NOTHING HAS CHANGED. ALL IS AS USUAL.

SEE HOW BEAUTIFUL YOU'VE BECOME.

Pluck

I'LL BUY YOU WHATEVER YOU WANT.

JUST SAY IT.

COME ON...

SAY THAT YOU'RE ONLY MINE.

aaaa

I CLUNG TO HIS ROTTING FLESH INSTEAD OF THE TEACHINGS OF BUDDHA.

I SERVED BUDDHA, BUT COULDN'T BELIEVE IN HIM TO THE END AND THAT WAS THE RESULT...

...IS THE WAY I LOOK NOW.

WHAT DO YOU THINK? I'M FILTHY, AM I NOT? AND UGLY?

HOW MUCH OF A MONSTER IS REFLECTED IN THE EYES OF A HOLY ONE LIKE YOURSELF?

YOU'RE RIGHT.

I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE THIS BEFORE.

DURING MY PILGRIMAGE, I'VE SEEN MANY, MANY PEOPLE SERVING GODS AND BUDDHAS.

THERE WERE EVEN THOSE AMONG THEM WHO HAD NO REMORSE FOR INDULGING IN DRINK AND WOMEN AND LOSING THE TRUE PATH.

BUT I HAVE NEVER SEEN *ANYONE...*

...WHO GRIEVED AND LAMENTED SO MUCH AS TO TURN INTO A DEMON.

IN THAT CASE, COME WITH ME.

SHOW ME HOW TO FORGET ALL THIS AND ERASE IT AND MOVE ON...!

FROM THESE ABOMINABLE ACTS, FROM MY DELUSIONS...

SAVE ME...!

LISTEN WELL.

FROM NOW ON, YOU WILL NOT MOVE FROM THIS SPOT AND YOU WILL PONDER ON THE MEANING OF THIS POEM.

THE DEMON CAUSED YOU ALL A LOT OF TROUBLE, BUT I THINK IT WILL NEVER COME BACK TO THIS VILLAGE.

HOW-EVER...

KAIAN-SAMA, YOUR ARM IS INJURED!

DID THE DEMON HURT YOU?

THE PRIEST RETURNED ...!

I'M AFRAID I MUST INSIST ON THIS.

YOU MUST BE VIGILANT AND MAKE SURE NOBODY ENTERS THE TEMPLE IN THAT MOUNTAIN FOR ONE YEAR.

IT'S BECAUSE A NEW DISCIPLE OF MINE IS UNDERGOING RELIGIOUS TRAINING THERE NOW.

WHY NOT? DIDN'T YOU EXORCISE THE DEMON?

AOZUKIN

WHAT DID HE MEAN?

HE WOULD RETURN TO CHECK ON THINGS, BUT...

THAT PRIEST SAID THAT IN ONE YEAR,

WHO KNOWS? BUT THE DEMON HAS NOT APPEARED SINCE THEN.

WE SHOULD BE SATISFIED WITH THAT.

YEAH, THAT'S ENOUGH FOR US.

ISN'T THAT KAIAN-SAMA OVER THERE?

HEY!

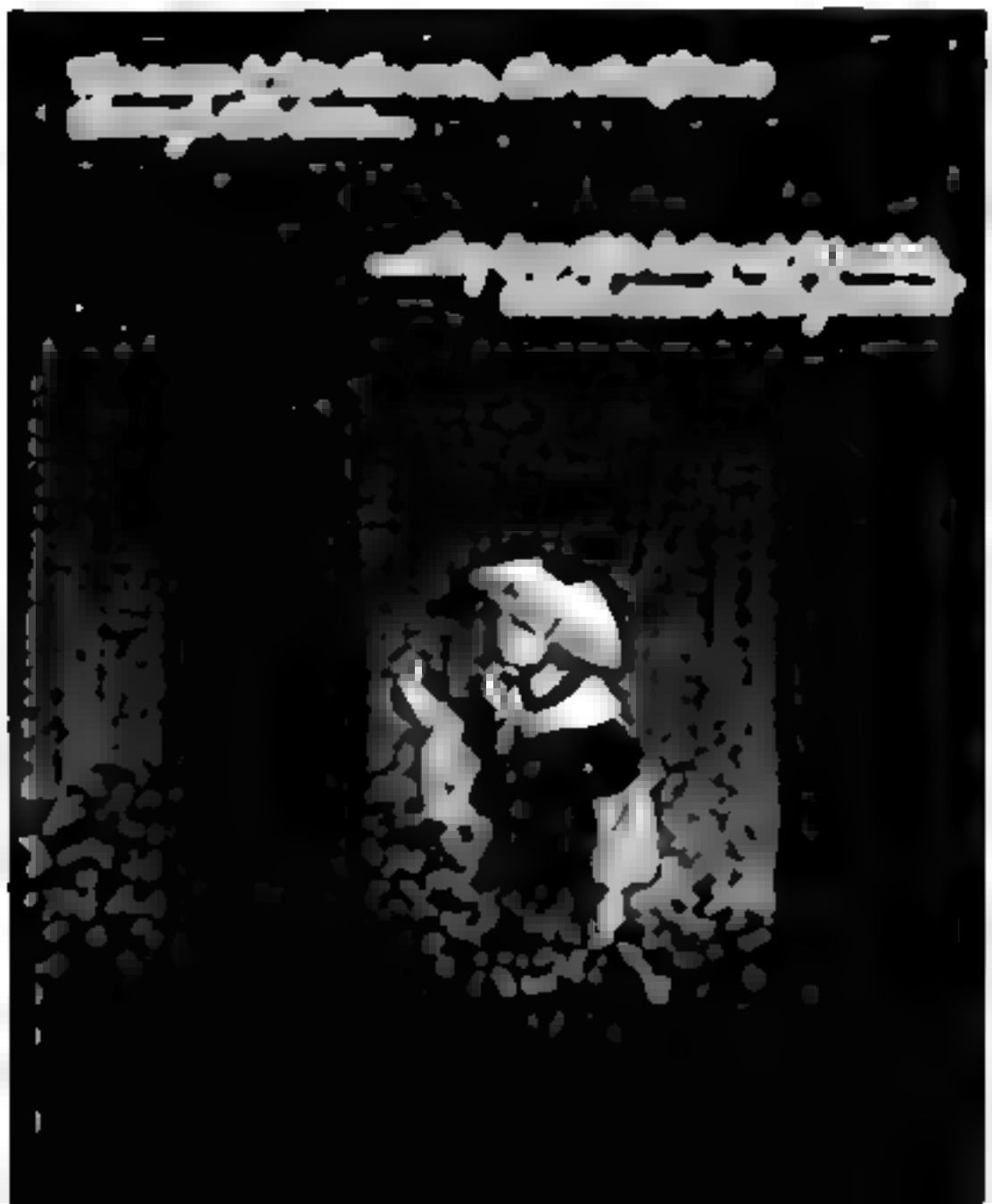
EH...?

HE WENT WITHOUT GIVING US EVEN A GLANCE

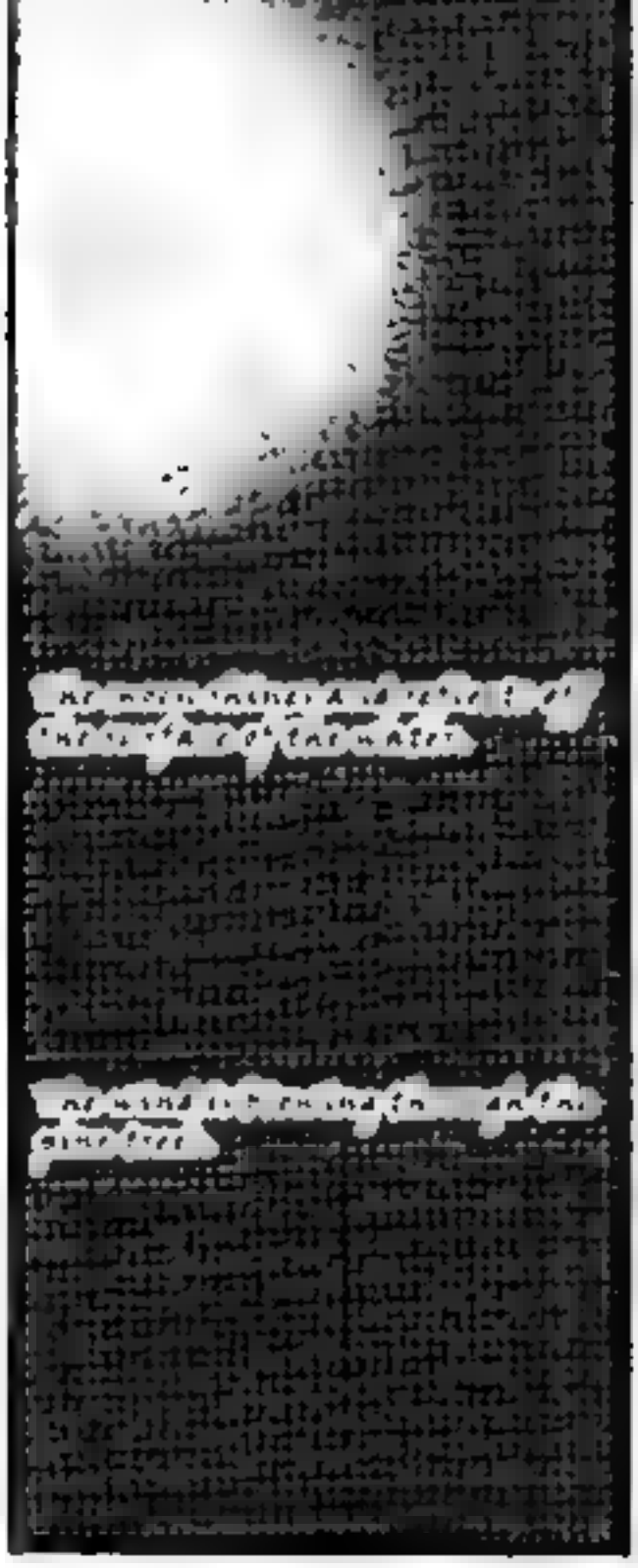
MAYBE IT WASN'T FAAN SAMA?

PRESS!

MESSY!
MESSY!



AOZUKIN



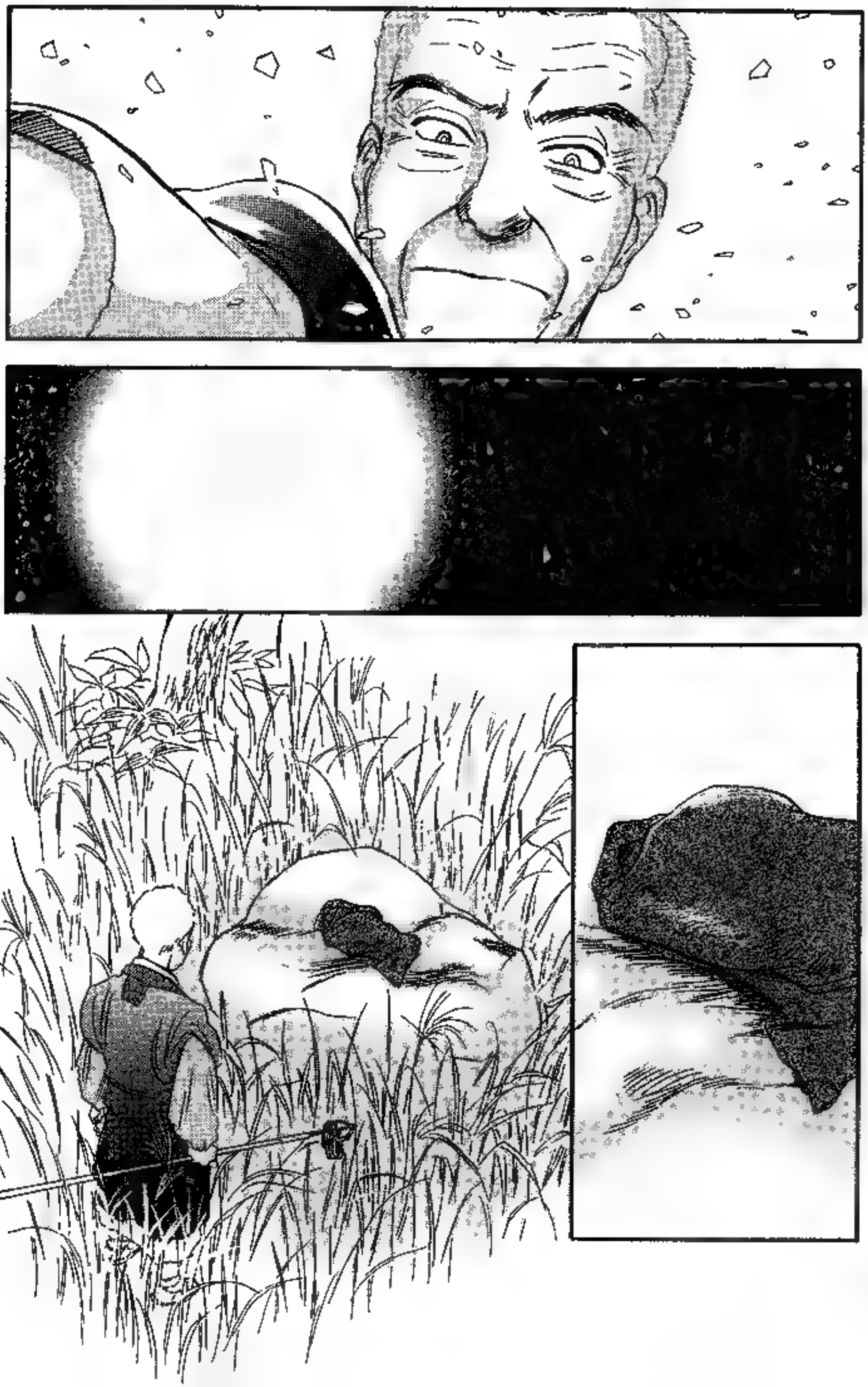
WHAT IS THE REASON FOR YOUR EXIS-TENCE...

...IN THIS WORLD?

shock

Sa
Ti Wu d-

AOZUKIN



KAIAN-SAMA.

WE'RE VERY GRATEFUL FOR WHAT YOU DID FOR US.

NO, I SHOULD BE THE ONE TO THANK YOU.

YOU GAVE HIM SUCH A BEAUTIFUL GRAVE.

BUT HE GAINED VERY GOOD RESULTS AND DIED THE DEATH OF A HIGH PRIEST. NOW HE'S MUCH FURTHER AHEAD OF ME ON THE ROAD THAT I WALK.

THAT MONK WAS MY DISCIPLE,

I WOULD LIKE TO ASK YOU ALL FOR EKOU* FOR HIM.

* NOTE EKOU - OFFERINGS AND PRAYERS TO THE GODS, ASK. NG A DECEASED PERSON TO ENTER NIRVANA

EHM... MASTER PRIEST, HERE...

IF IT IS MEANT TO BE,

KAIAN-SAMA, COULDN'T YOU STAY HERE AND WATCH OVER THAT TEMPLE...?

I'LL RETURN HERE ON MY OWN.

BUT NOW YOU HAVE TO LET ME GO.

PLEASE, STAY SAFE ON YOUR TRAVELS.

AH, I'M VERY GRATE-FUL FOR THIS.

I'LL BE ALL RIGHT.

BUDDHA WILL SHINE LIGHT ON MY WAY.

AOZUKIN | THE END

AERANDRIA

THE RAPID SOUL BEHIND YOUR FAVORITE RELEASES!

Ugetsu Monogatari
Chapter 03

Lacaille :SCANNER
Mari :TRANSLATOR
Sylvia :PROOFREADER
Kelly :EDITORS
cae um- nfin tum :QUALITY CHECK

http //aerandria net irc // irch ghway net/#aerandria

JASEI
NO IN

This is a tale of what once befell in the Kii Province.

IT IS A WHALE!

THEY HAVE BROUGHT A WHALE TO THE SHORE!

AAH, TAKESUKE -SAMA FROM THE ELDER'S HOUSE IS BRILLIANT.

INDEED. ANOTHER HUGE CATCH TODAY, TOO.

HE WILL BECOME A SPLENDID SUCCESSOR.

ARGH! HURTS!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

AAH, SORRY!

I WAS TRYING TO PUT AWAY EVERYONE'S HARPOONS.

TOYOO -SAMA...

CLANK!

CLANK

CLANK

BUT UNLIKE HIM...

TOYOO!

AH... THE SCENT OF BLOOD.

DIZZY

LEAVE!

WE ARE CUT-TING THE WHALE NOW.

I TOLD YOU NOT TO LOITER AROUND THE SHIPS!

SAUNTERING WITH A BOOK?! WHAT A HOPELESS MAN TOYOO-SAMA IS!

TRUE HIS DEMEANOR RESEMBLES NONE OF HIS BROTHER'S.

AH, HE DROPPED SOMETHING.

BEHOLD, HE HAS BECOME A BURDEN FOR HIS ELDER BROTHER AGAIN.

YES, HE SUFFERS FROM SEA-SICKNESS ON A BOAT THAT HE CANNOT DO ANYTHING.

HEEY!

SOMEONE IS DRIFTING ON THE BAY!

WELL, HE WAS ONLY TRYING TO HASTEN THE DRYING PROCESS.

HE MEANT NO HARM.

YET, HE BURNED MY NET WHILST ATTEMPTING TO DRY IT.

WERE HE MERELY USELESS, IT WOULD BE ALL RIGHT.

SAVE ME!

DROWN

I AM VERY SORRY, EVE-RY-ONE.

IT IS TERRI-BLY HARD FOR US TO SAY THIS,

BUT... PLEASE,

DO NOT LET TOYOO-SAMA COME TO THE SHORE ANY-MORE.

IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN THUS ..

ELDER...

WE UNDER-STAND THAT IT IS YOUR DESIRE THAT TOYOO-SAMA GROWS TO BE A RELIABLE MAN.

HOW-EVER...

IF THERE IS NO STRONG MAN TO LEAD THAT ROWDY BUNCH OF FISHERMEN, THEY SHALL NOT WORK.

THE CHIEF FISHERMAN OF MIWAGASAKI HAS ALWAYS BEEN SOMEONE FROM THE LANDLORD'S HOUSE.

YOU MUST UNDERSTAND BY NOW THAT IT SHALL NOT HAPPEN.

Mother

BOTH FATHER AND ELDER SON ARE DOING THEIR BEST, AND YET, THAT BOY RUINS ALL THEIR EFFORTS...

PITIFUL!

WHAT ARE YOU READING?

NO NEED TO HIDE IT.

U-UM...

FATHER...

*NOTE. POETIC ANTHOLOGY FROM THE TENTH CENTURY THAT DICTATED POETIC STYLE UNTIL THE NINETEENTH CENTURY

JASEI NO IN

FA-THER...

THEY ARE ALL RHYMES AND POEMS.

HMPF!

ANOTHER USELESS THING...

KOKINWAKASHU*

UM...I AM VERY SORRY FOR WHAT HAPPENED.

BUT I SHALL DO MY BEST AND WORK FOR THE GOOD OF THE HOUSEHOLD, JUST AS BROTHER DOES!

I TOLD YOU, THERE WAS NO NEED.

DO NOT EVEN GO OUT OF THE HOUSE.

YOUR VISIT AT THE HARBOR IS NO LONGER RE-QUIRED.

IT DOES NOT MATTER ANYMORE. READ AS YOU WISH.

IT MAKES ME SO HAPPY.

AH, HOW MUCH HE RESEM-BLES ME.

*NOTE: "ON A FRIEND'S DEATH" BY MIBU-NO-TADAMINE, KOKINWAKASHU, BOOK 16, POEM 855

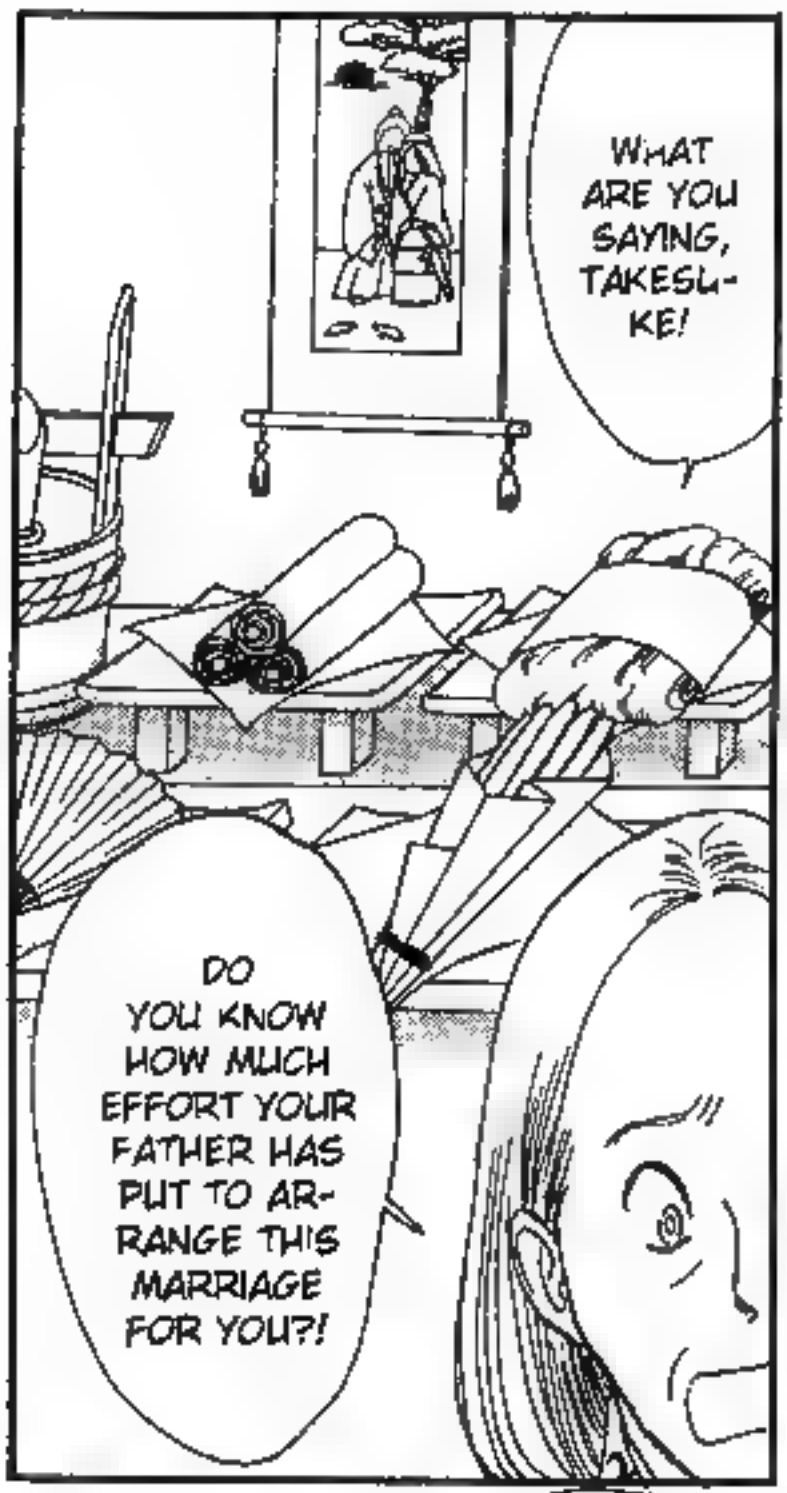
"WHY SHOULD WE SAY "DREAM" ONLY OF THAT WHICH WE SEE WHILE WE LIE ASLEEP?"

"THIS FU-GITIVE WORLD ITSELF IS SCARCELY REALITY."*

COME, EVERY-ONE!

THIS IS A HAPPY OCCASION!

*IYASAKA - A CHEER USED ON ESPECIALLY HAPPY OCCASIONS AND CELEBRATIONS



FATHER,
IT IS MERELY THE EXCHANGE OF THE BETROTHAL GIFTS ARE YOU NOT OVERDOING IT?
HE DID EVERYTHING POSSIBLE AND VISITED SO MANY PEOPLE
AND HE FOUND YOU A FLAWLESS WOMAN, BEAUTIFUL AND FROM A GOOD FAMILY.

INCIDENTALLY, WHERE IS THE YOUNGER BROTHER?

IS HE READING IN HIS CONFINEMENT AGAIN?

THE ELDER HAS NOT FORGIVEN HIM, YET.

IT IS UNTHINKABLE WHAT WOULD HAVE HAPPENED HAD HE APPEARED BEFORE THE MATCHMAKERS AND CAUSED TROUBLES.

THEN WILL HE REMAIN THAT WAY HENCEFORTH?

YES.

IT IS TRUE THAT FOR ALL THE YEARS WHILE MY YOUNGER BROTHER HAS NOT BEEN ALLOWED TO LEAVE THE HOUSE, IT HAS ALL BEEN SMOOTH SAILING.

MY YOUNGER BROTHER WILL NEVER LIVE TO SEE SUCH A GRAND AND CHEERFUL DAY AS THIS IN HIS LIFE!

Wa- ha- ha- ha- ha!

AH, TOYOO -SAMA, WHITHER ARE YOU GOING?

YES BEFORE I COULD STOP HIM...
EVEN THOUGH THE SKY IS SO MURKY IN THE DIRECTION OF THE ERUPTING MOUNTAINS
THE MOUNTAIN?
TOYOO-SAMA WENT OUT?
HE WENT RUNNING TOWARDS THAT MOUNTAIN

Flash

I HAVE LOST MY WAY.

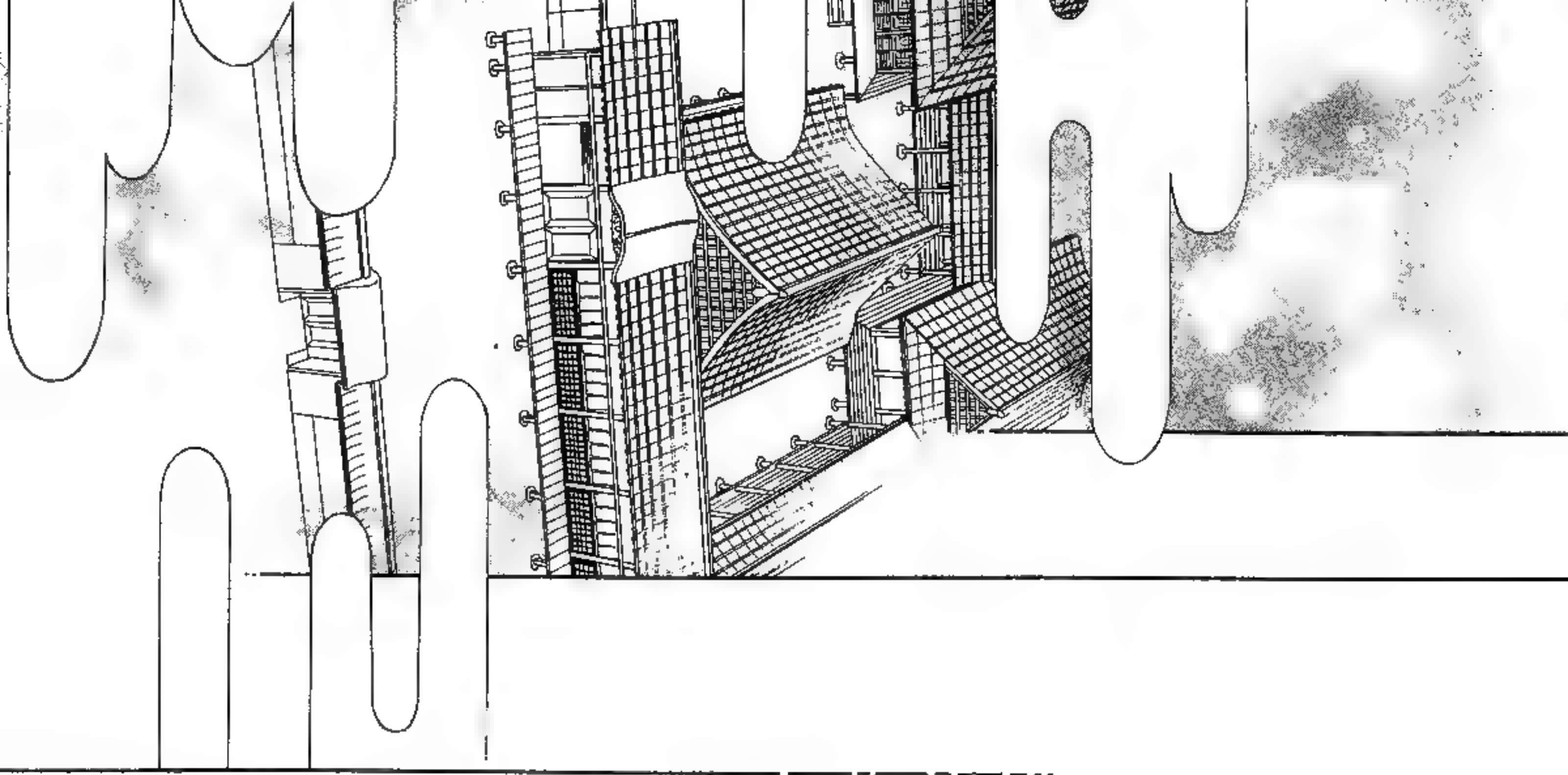
WHICH WAY IS IT..?

AH...EVEN THOUGH I RARELY VENTURE OUTSIDE, IS THIS WHAT I GET?

WHY ALWAYS ME...

THIS WAY.

COME



I AM SO GLAD THAT YOU ARE AWAKE!

°O

THE SCENT OF INCENSE?

I HAVE NEVER INHALED ANY-THING LIKE THIS.

EH...

Dash

MANAGO-SAMA! HE IS AWAKE!

AH!

AH..!

THE LIGHT-NING BOLT...

LYING..?

YOU WERE LYING RIGHT BEFORE OUR GATES.

GOOD FOR-TUNE WAS WITH YOU.

T-THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR SAVING ME.

NO... I AM AGATA NO MANAGO.

THIS IS MY HOME.

IS THIS ...

THE MANSION OF A PROVINCE GOVER-NOR...?

MANAGO -SAMA..

EVEN THOUGH IT IS NOT MUCH, PLEASE HELP YOUR-SELF.

MARO-YA, DRINKS.

OR PERHAPS... THERE IS ONE YOU LOVE SO DEARLY THAT YOU ARE PRE-PARED TO TAKE THE GREATEST HASTE TO RETURN TO HER SIDE?

YES.

UM...

I CANNOT LET YOU DO THAT ON TOP OF SAVING ME...

ARE YOU GO-ING?

IT IS RAINING OUTSIDE AND DARK, AS WELL.

I HAVE TO GO...

IN THAT CASE, MAROYA, BRING ME THAT.

NO... NOT AT ALL.

YES.

AH, I AM SO GLAD!

AH! THAT IS MINE...

IT WAS IN THE BOSOM OF YOUR KIMONO. I DRIED IT FOR YOU.

INDEED.

TOYOO-DONO, YOU SEEM TO LOVE THE WRITTEN WORD VERY MUCH.

I DID NOT GIVE YOU MY NAME. HOW DO YOU KNOW IT?

I HEARD THAT IN THE FAMILY OF THE ELDER AND LANDLORD OF MI-WAGASAKI, WHO IS ALSO THE CHIEF FISHERMAN, THERE IS A SON WHO LOVES BOOKS.

SUCH PERSON IS RARE IN AN ENVI-RON MENT LIKE THAT.

BLUSH

THAT IS WHY I AS-SUMED...

I AM ASHAMED THAT THE EMBAR-RASSING RUMORS HAVE REACHED THUS FAR...

EM-BAR-RASS-ING?

I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN HOPING TO BE ABLE TO TALK WITH THAT PERSON.

AND MY WISH CAME TRUE TONIGHT.

AH, I AM OVER-JOYED.

UM... MANAGO-SAMA, DO YOU LOVE BOOKS, TOO?

YES, ESPECIALLY POETRY.

"WHY SHOULD WE SAY 'DREAM' ONLY OF THAT WHICH WE SEE WHILE WE LIE ASLEEP?

THIS FUGITIVE WORLD ITSELF IS SCARCELY REALITY."

THIS IS FROM MIBU NO TADA-MINE...

WHAT IS IT?

AS EX-PECTED, YOU KNEW IT.

I THINK MORE HIGHLY OF YOU!

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I HAVE BEEN PRAISED FOR SUCH A THING.

NOBODY IN THIS WORLD HAS EVER ACCEPTED ME.

I HAVE NEVER BELONGED ANYWHERE.

WHY AM I EVEN SAYING THIS...

ONLY WHEN I OPEN A BOOK CAN I FORGET ALL THE HARD-SHIPS.

I WISH I COULD LIVE IN ONE OF MY BOOKS INSTEAD...

TOYOO-SAMA, ARE YOU LONELY?

AH!

I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN ALONE, TOO.

JUST LIKE YOU!

MANAGO-SAMA, I AM ASTO-NISHED,

YOU KNOW NOT ONLY JAPANESE POETRY, BUT ALSO CHI-NESE AND KOREAN POETRY.

IT IS AS IF ALL OF MY BOOKS WERE AL-READY IN YOUR HEAD.

AND COMPOSE A POEM FOR ME.

I AM HAPPY.

PLEASE, LOOK AT ME WITH YOUR KIND AND GENTLE EYES.

SUCH A WOMAN AS YOU?

CAN THERE REALLY EXIST SUCH A MYS-TERY?

YOU TURN YOUR BACK TOWARDS THE SEA AND REACH THIS HIDDEN VALLEY, HERE,

IN THE MOUNTAINS OF KUMANO, WHERE PEOPLE SAY RUNS THE ROAD LEADING TO THE WORLD OF THE DEAD,

THERE, YOU MIGHT PASS BY SOMEONE BEARING THE SHIKIMI* FLOWERS AND THEN YOU REALIZE THAT A DECEASED WAS DEARLY MISSED.

WE, WHO DO NOT HAVE ANY ATTACHMENTS

TO THE REAL WORLD, HAVE THIS LAND.

*NOTE FLOWERS PLACED ON BUDDHIST GRAVES

PLEASE DO NOT GO BACK.

STAY WITH ME, PLEASE.

THE RAIN STOP-PED.

IF I STAY ANY LONGER, THEY MIGHT NEVER ALLOW ME TO LEAVE AGAIN...

...AND YET, I FORSOOK MY FATHER'S HOUSE WITH NO WORD.

MANAGO-SAMA, NO DESIRE OF RETURNING HOMEWARDS PROMPTS ME...

MANAGO -SAMA...

I SHALL AWAIT YOU HERE.

IF YOU THINK OF ME AS THE ONLY WIFE FOR YOU, TOYOO-DONO,

THEN WILL YOU LEAVE HOME IN SECRET TO COME HITHER EVER-MORE?

YOU ARE THE ONLY ONE FOR ME!

AAH, I AM IN BLISS.

I VOW THAT UNTIL THE END OF MY LIFE, IT IS YOU ALONE WHOM I SHALL WED.

IT ATTESTS THAT HENCE-FORTH YOU ARE HEAD OF THE HOUSE-HOLD.

WHAT A SPLEN-DID SWORD!

TOYOO-DONO, TAKE THIS...

AS LONG AS YOU HAVE THIS, THE GATES OF THIS MANSION WILL OPEN UP FOR YOU AS MASTER OF THE HOUSE.

RUSTLE

HM?

WHAT IS IT?

HEY, YOU!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING AT SUCH A PLACE?

I...

I AM...

WHOA! STEADY, LAD!

THEY FOUND TOYOO?!

YES, HE WAS UNCONSCIOUS IN THE MOUNTAIN.

HE AWOKE A WHILE AGO,

BUT HE KEEPS BLURTING STRANGE THINGS.

THE SWORD IS GONE.

HOW WOULD YOU HAVE SUCH A THING?

IT WAS A GIFT FROM MANAGO-SAMA!

AH.

THE SWORD! MY SWORD...

WHAT IS IT?

I HAVE NEVER HEARD OF A PLACE RUN BY A WOMAN WITH SUCH A NAME.

IM-POSSI-BLE...

AGATA-NO-MANAGO?

WHO IS THAT?

THERE IS NO NOBLEWOMAN IN THIS AREA THAT FATHER AND I HAVE NO KNOW-LEDGE OF.

BESIDES, YOU SAY YOU STAYED THERE FOR A SINGLE NIGHT,

BUT YOU DISAPPEARED TEN DAYS AGO.

TEN DAYS ...?

AT ANY RATE, GETTING IN THE GOOD GRACES OF A NOBLEWOMAN WHO LOVES POETRY...

YOU HAD A SWEET DREAM INDEED.

DREAM?

I BET THAT YOU HAD SUCH A DREAM BECAUSE YOU WERE JEALOUS OF MY MARRIAGE.

YEA, I DO NOT KNOW WHERE YOU WERE LODGED, BUT

DREAM?

THAT WAS A DREAM?

AND THEN... AND THEN...

THIS IS WHERE I WAS WHEN IT STARTED TO RAIN.

WHERE IS IT..?

ANY MANSION TO BE AT SUCH A PLACE.

IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR

SO IT REALLY WAS A DREAM.

Ha-ha..

I WAS SUCH A BIG FOOL.

WHERE IN THE WORLD DID HE OBTAIN SUCH A THING?

TOYOO, YOU IDIOT.

HE MIGHT BABBLE ABOUT ANY FANTASY HE LIKES, BUT THIS MUCH IS REAL.

I SHALL TAKE THIS AND MAKE IT THIS FAMILY'S TREASURE.

THIS SERVES NO PURPOSE TO HIM.

AH, WHO CARES?

Wriggle

DO NOT TOUCH ME, PEASANT.

HUH?

WHAT...

YOU ARE NOT MY MASTER.

EKI

A VIPER!

WHAT IS IT?

AAARGH!

TAKE-SUKE!

THE HEAD! BASH ITS HEAD!

TAKE-SUKE!

NOOO!

TAKE-SUKE!

STEADY!

THE BRIDE'S FAMILY ALREADY SAID THEY DO NOT CARE WHICH SON SHE MARRIED AS LONG HE IS THE HEIR OF THE FAMILY.

BUT...

I SHALL TALK TO THE FISHERMEN ABOUT THE REST.

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS STAY PUT QUIETLY.

WHAT A PITY FOR THE ELDER.

WE SHALL SUPPORT YOU AS MUCH AS WE CAN. THERE IS NO OTHER CHANCE...

AH?

TOYOO, YOU—

TOYOO-SAMA.

TOYOO-SAMA.

TOYOO, THERE IS NO ONE BUT YOU.

HERE! IT SUITS YOU VERY WELL!

GARBED IN THIS MANNER, YOU LOOK REFINED.

I NEED THEM NO MORE.

OH, TOYOO-SAMA, YOUR PRECIOUS BOOKS!

IT IS FINE. I SAW THOSE FOOLISH DREAMS BECAUSE I HAD SUCH THINGS.

AAAH...

AAAH...

T-TOMIKO-DONO...

LIFT YOUR FACE.

I AM CERTAIN IT BOTHERS YOU THAT IT IS ME AND NOT MY BROTHER, BUT EVEN SO, THIS IS A MARRIAGE.

WE EXCHANGED WEDDING VOWS AND NOW WE ARE INSEPARABLE FOR AS LONG AS WE LIVE.

HENCE, PLEASE BE AT EASE.

YES...

BUT...

YOU SAY THIS TO ME, BUT...

...IS THERE NOT ANOTHER WOMAN TO WHOM YOU HAVE MADE THE SAME VOW?

THEN, WHAT HAPPENED THAT NIGHT?

NO.

THERE IS NO SUCH WOMAN.

WHY DID YOU FORGET ME, MY ONLY LOVE?

NIGHT?

WHAT OF THE PROMISE THAT YOU WOULD NEVER FORSAKE ME?

WHAT OF THE VOWS WE EX-CHANGED IN THAT RAIN?

MANAGO-SAMA..?

AND WHY DID YOU EXCHANGE WEDDING VOWS WITH SUCH A WOMAN?

WHAT WERE YOU THINK-ING...?

I THOUGHT YOU AND THAT NIGHT AND EVERY-THING WERE A DREAM.

SO, IT WAS THAT NOT A DREAM AFTER ALL...

WHAT BEFELL THE SWORD I EN-TRUST-ED TO YOU?

WHAT HAPPENED TO MAROYA?

TO YOU, TOYOO-DONO, THIS PRE-SENT WORLD IS A DREAM.

COME WITH ME...

FOR-GIVE ME, BUT I CAN-NOT.

I SHALL ABIDE HERE.

A-

ha-

ha!

Kya-

ha-

ha-

ha-

ha-

ha-

CIRCUM-STANCES HAVE CHANGED BETWEEN THEN AND NOW.

UPON MY BROTHER'S DEATH, NO LONGER AM I DISPEN-SABLE.

CRASH

Gyaaa!

Aah!

THIS IS WHERE I BELONG NOW.

I BEG YOUR UNDER-STAND-ING.

ELDER!

L-LOOK!

WHAT WAS THAT NOISE?

WHAT HAP-PENED?

GRAB

Squeak

Gulp

Gulp

Thunder

MANA-GO...

SLITHER

SLITHER

SLITHER

AAH... MY DEAR, BELOVED TOYOO -SAMA...

MY ONLY ONE!

YOU HAVE INVOLVED YOURSELF WITH A TERRIBLE THING.

AN EVIL SO IMPURE POSSESSES YOUR BRIDE AND SHE IS IN LOVE WITH YOU.

OOOH... HOW IS THAT POS-SIBLE...

I DOUBT THAT EVEN YOUR BRIDE CAN BE SAVED NOW.

MASTER PRIEST!

ONCE A TARGET, LIFE WILL BE DRAINED FROM YOU UNTIL THE VERY LAST DROP.

HMPF! BEAUTY IS SUPERFICIAL. THE MALICE AND IMPURITY OF THE DEMON LIE IN ITS INNER NATURE.

IMPOSSIBLE! THE CHASTE MANAGO-SAMA—A DEMON?

I WILL PAY YOU ANY-THING YOU WISH IN RETURN!

PLEASE, SAVE MY SON AND HIS BRIDE!

BANG

VERY WELL, I ACCEPT!

I SHALL EXORCISE YOU!

COME, DEMON!

MAKE HASTE TO EXPEL THE EVIL FROM THIS BODY!

AAAH, PRIEST...

PLEASE HELP ME...

COME, MAKE HASTE...

GULP

IF YOU CAN, THAT IS.

EEEEK!

ARGH!

THE PRIEST!

YOU MUST BE TALKING IN JEST!

HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO EXORCISE SUCH A DEMON?!

AAH!

I CARE NOT WHO IT IS!

IS THERE NOT ANYONE WHO CAN EXORCISE HER?!

SHE POISONED HIM AND HE DIED IN AN INSTANT.

HOW HORRIBLE! HOW HORRIBLE!

WE CANNOT FISH LIKE THIS.

ILL WEATHER GOING TO CONTI NUE?

HOW LONG IS THIS

IT IS ALL BECAUSE THE DEMON IN THE ELDER'S HOUSE IS RESENTFUL!

AH, WHAT A BO-THER!

THE CHIL-DREN ARE HUNGRY.

AAH, TAKE-SUKE...

AND THEN TAKESUKE DIED.

HE DIS-OBEYED ME AND RELIN-QUISHED HOME...

IT IS ALL TOYOO'S FAULT.

IT IS ALL YOUR FAULT!

IT IS ALL HIS FAULT!

THAT JINXED PEST!

ATONE FOR WHAT HAS TRANSPIRED!

NOW!

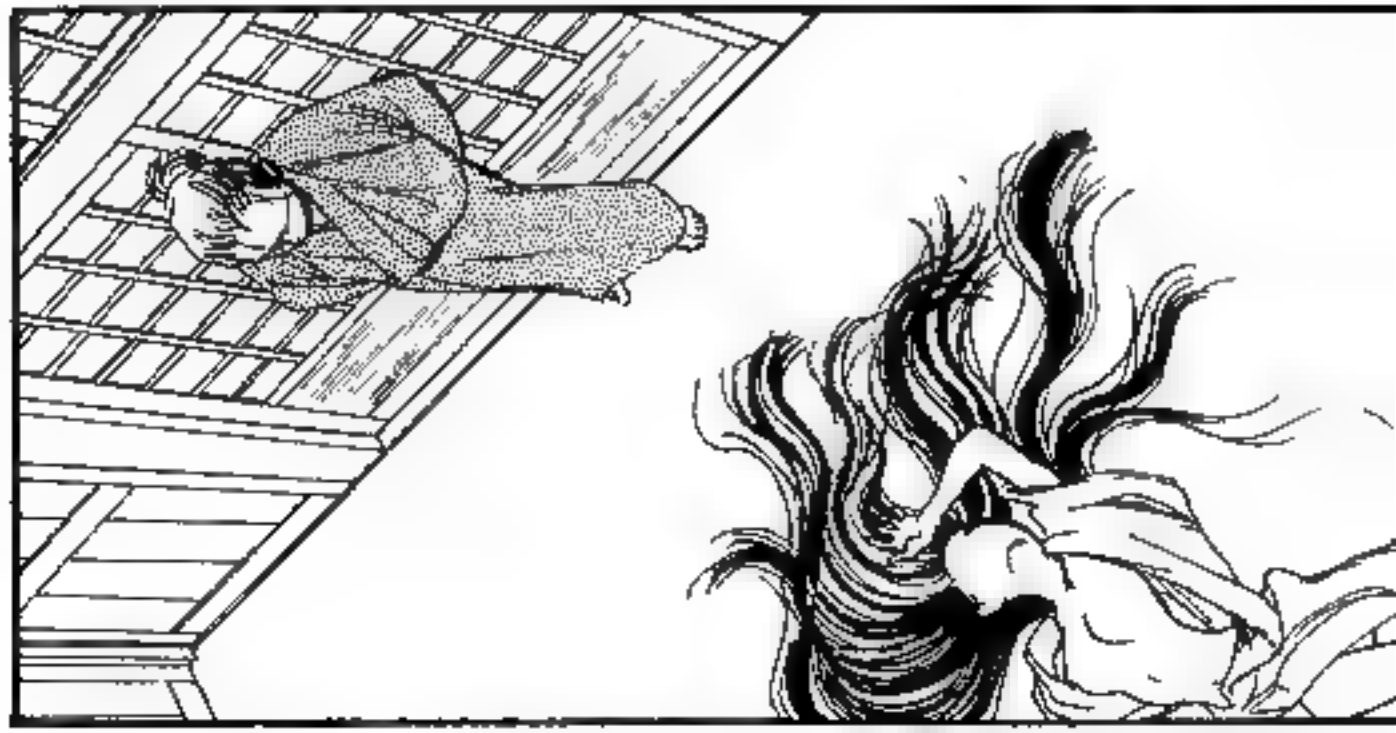
Mumble

Mumble

Mumble

He-he-he-

Mumble



MA-
NA-
GO...
IT
WAS
MY
FAULT.

DO WHAT
YOU
PLEASE
WITH ME.

EVERYONE SAID THEY NEED ME NO MORE.

TOYOO-SAMA..

WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY?

THEY BADE ME TO GO AWAY.

THEY CLAIMED I BRING ONLY MISFOR-TUNE.

WHERE IS THE PLACE THAT I BELONG IN THIS WORLD?

HA-HA...

MA-NA-GO...

TAKE ME WITH YOU.

MY BODY, MY LIFE, EVERYTHING IS YOURS.

IF YOU SO DESIRE IT, I AM ALL YOURS.

AAH...

TOYOO-SAMA

Eyehale

Thud

Sparkle

MANA-GO...

AAH, TRULY ENRAP-TURED.

I AM ENRAP-TURED.

JUST THE TWO OF US, IN AN ETERNAL DREAM.

NOW WE CAN LIVE TO-GETH-ER,

NOW!

BANG

WHAT...?

BANG

BANG

BANG

COUGH

TOYOO-SAMA...

YOU DE-CEIVED ME AGAIN...

WHY...

WHY DID YOU HAVE TO DECEIVE AND BETRAY ME TO THIS EXTENT?

Shiver

Shiver

EVE-RYONE PROM-ISED SO.

FOR LURING THE DEMON AS LONG AS IT ALL WENT WELL.

THEY SAID THEY WOULD ALLOW ME TO REMAIN HERE IF I BECAME THE BAIT

BECAUSE ONLY THEN SHALL I BE SAVED.

THAT IS WHY.
WHAT DO YOU SEE?
WHAT IS IT THAT YOU SEE IN YOUR HEART?
I HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO DO IT.
I HAD NO CHOICE...!

AH, IS IT NOT THE RE-FLECTION OF ME?
I WAS SO GLAD.
IT IS AS IF YOU WERE LOOKING AT ME.

I STARTED PRAYING THAT ONE DAY...

...YOU WILL GAZE LIKE THAT AT THE REAL ME.

THAT WAS MY ONLY WISH...

WHAT THE... IT IS A SNAKE!

SO IT WAS A MERE SNAKE.

DIS-GUST-ING!

NO!

ONLY YOU DID...

ME, THE ONE NOBODY EVER NOTICED OR EVEN LOOKED AT.

SO YOU HAVE ALWAYS BEEN WATCHING ME?

MANA-GO...

Afterwards, the recovered bride was returned to her hometown.

Toyoo left his family and they adopted the child of distant relatives.

What happened to him after-wards, no one knows.

The last that was heard of Toyoo was a rumor that he is walking the pilgrimage road of Ku-mano, watching, as if looking for someone.

JASEI NO IN. / THE END

雨月物語

ugetsu monogatari

AUTHOR: UEDA AKINARI
ART: HIWATO KIKO

Tales of Moonlight and Rain

Hiwato Kiko

ugetsu monogatari ofuisu yu

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"Kibitsu no kama" (The Cauldron of Kibitsu)
The story of a woman who becomes an angry ghost after her husband betrays her.

"Aozukin" (The Blue Hood)
The story of a monk who turns into a demon because of love.

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